

compassionate

unique

diverse

individual

equal

united

champions

proud

spirited

cultured

creative

unified

divided

one

DEFINING

ourselves ■



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REFLECTOR 1997-98 Griffith High School
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 Volume 57

photo by Kay Norton



photo by Kay Norton



photo by Kay Norton

DEFINING *ourselves*

EFINITELY S (clockwise from above) Junior Bridgette Wayo finishes her Algebra II homework on the ledge before school. Juniors Kelly Schoeffel and Beth Wilson try

to figure out where the letters for the junior banner go. Junior Meagan Clarke reads a card attached to her present from her Secret Santa during the Quill & Scroll lock-in.

PIECE IT TOGETHER During seventh-hour Adult Prep class, senior Kim Webb helps two second graders put together a puzzle. "I didn't realize it would be so hard [for the kids] to put it together," said Webb.

Writer's Block, the only new extracurricular club added to the curriculum, attracted students looking for a way to express their thoughts with poems and stories and get feedback from their peers. With trips to Border's and guest speakers, the club sponsored by Terri Swetky, English, added new definition to the school year.

NEW



photo by Brian Dineen



photo by Tom Papa

photo by Kim Swetky



INSTANT REPLAY The large screen at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis displays a replay of senior Shane Radtke running down the field, dodging the Hamilton Southeastern Royals players. The Panthers beat the Royals 49-7.

Spirited adj. Full of or characterized by animation, vigor, or courage. With Scott Fech, foreign language, selling candy and yelling 'Send our students to France.' during passing period, he along with the other new teachers invoked a sense of spirit through the hallways and the classroom.

Creative adj. Characterized by originality and expressiveness. Students expressed their originality through their clothing and hairstyles, but with the no backpacks in school rule, they could no longer show their style through their backpacks.

Divided adj. Separated into parts, sections, groups, or branches. Searching for a familiar face in the cafeteria was

MAKING

common the first few days of school since for the first time, lunch was closed and divided into two periods.



photo by Kim Swetky



photo by Tim Korman



photo by Tim Korman



photo by Tim Korman



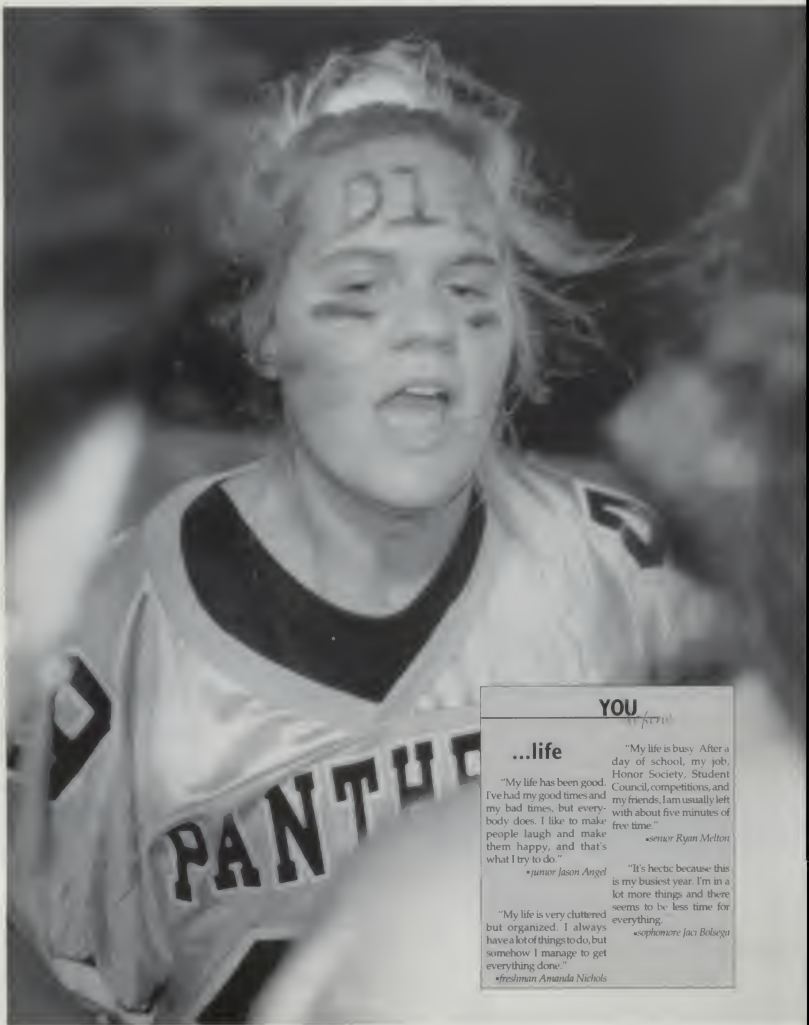
photo by Tim Korman

Champion n. One that holds first place or wins first prize in a contest. The Panthers showed they were true
Whole v. To bring together so as to form a whole. GHS became a whole and complete high school
Compassionate adj. Feeling or showing compassion; sympathetic. Past and present students showed

NEW DEFINITIONS

champions when they beat Hamilton Southeastern in Class 4A state finals at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. when the freshman class became united with the sophomores, juniors, and seniors for the first time. their compassion when they attended the funeral of retired teacher Carl Dalton, social studies, in the summer.

INFINITE HAPPENINGS top to bottom) Panther mascot junior Kristy Florey entertains some younger Panther fans at a football game. Junior Joan Doppler decorates the front doors of a local business before the regional football game against Hobart. Sophomore Jessica Santos and eighth grader Carol Fiest pray during the first Remnant meeting of the year. Junior Christina Federenko and her mom speak with new teacher Julie Jachimczak, music, during Open House.



YOU

...life

"My life has been good. I've had my good times and my bad times, but everybody does. I like to make people laugh and make them happy, and that's what I try to do."

•junior Jason Angel

"My life is very cluttered but organized. I always have a lot of things to do, but somehow I manage to get everything done."

•freshman Amanda Nichols

"My life is busy. After a day of school, my job, Honor Society, Student Council, competitions, and my friends, I am usually left with about five minutes of free time."

•senior Ryan Melton

"It's hectic because this is my busiest year. I'm in a lot more things and there seems to be less time for everything."

•sophomore Jaci Bolegri

the definition of life

stress
rewards
fron
work
school
maturing

life *n.* the physical, mental, and spiritual experiences that constitute a person's existence. With a variety of experiences throughout the school year, students felt the physical, mental, and spiritual encounters that defined their lives. Officially adding freshmen to the high school was an adjustment for everyone. Freshmen had to adapt to having classes both in the junior high and high school, making the five minutes during passing period seem all the more shorter. The sophomores, juniors and seniors had to adjust to including the freshmen in many activities. The freshman float was added to the Homecoming parade, freshmen were allowed to vote for Homecoming King and Queen, and were allowed to attend activities night, though few came. The sophomore-sponsored Turnabout was open to all members of the high school, including the freshmen, but Prom remained for juniors and seniors, or sophomores and freshmen who were asked by an upperclassman. New rules also gave students more to deal with. The new closed lunch had the cafeteria crowded with hungry students looking for a place to sit and eat their lunch; some opted to sit on the floor. Backpacks weren't allowed in class anymore due to safety hazards so students had to find other ways of transporting their books from one class to another. With all these new changes, students had to find ways to adjust and create a new definition of their own lives.

24 LIFE'S LITTLE INSTRUCTIONS Senior Jennifer Surret directs her Powder Puff teammates before the game starts during Activities Night. Surret played as center for the team. The seniors won Powder Puff, a football game the girls from each class played against each other to earn points for their class.

Photo by Tim Weber

Lunch 'n' Punch

Hanging out during lunch, sophomores Allison Gatlin, David Colby, Emily Coddington, and Colleen Vechey converse with each other. The cafeteria was often more crowded due to the fact that the only place besides the cafeteria students could eat was the gym lobby.

New Study Hall

Working diligently, junior Brian Rodriguez and sophomore Katina Chapa help each other with homework. "Closed lunch is a bad idea because the lines are too long, it's too crowded, so by the time you get your lunch, it's time to go," said Rodriguez.

(Photo by: Sarah Schmitt)



(Photo by: Tom Papa)



Out to Lunch...No More

"I'm sorry, but you are going to have to take your book bag back to your locker." Students frequently heard this when they brought their book bags with them to their classes. With the approval by the school board, the rules about the closed lunch and the no book bags allowed in classrooms were put in effect. These rules were made because the board wanted these rules the same for students from seventh to twelfth grade.

Carrying many books in order to save time proved to be helpful to some students.

New rules invade the school

locker."

Incoming sophomores looked forward to finally having open lunch, but then the unthinkable happened.

"I hate the idea of closed lunch, because it was supposed to be our first year to go out for lunch, but now we can't," said sophomore Crystal Cullum.

-Erick Cunningham

"Running all over the school is hard enough with only five minutes between periods," said junior Sarah Fech. "Book bags can save several trips to your



(Photo by: Kelli's mom)

'Takin' a Walk

Strolling down the hall, junior Nikolina Dimovski makes her way through the junior high. The no backpacks rule was made to unite the junior high and high school with the same rules.



Chow Down

Talking together, juniors Amanda Marcus and Nathan Ramsey joke on the vent in the cafeteria. Two new ice cream machines were added in the cafeteria and the gym lobby to give the students more variety of food choices.

'Bag & Tricks

Resting on her backpack, senior Angela Wilson relaxes during her lunch period. "I still take my backpacks to my classes because my teachers don't say anything," said Wilson.

King Johnny

Balancing the crown on his head, senior **Johnny Vargo** stands there proudly while senior candidate **Angela Stout** claps for him. This was Vargo's first time on a court.

Underswire Support

Confused, Student Council president senior **Michael Kelley** is unsure of where to place his hand during the Pledge of Allegiance during the convocation to introduce the Homecoming court. "I looked out into the audience and saw everyone laughing," said Kelley.

Looking On

Senior **Shane Radtke** watches the Powder Puff football game while seniors **Tania Fliter** and **Dennis Palucki** talk strategy. Football players were not allowed to participate in Activities Night for fear of an injury.

photo by Lisa Suter



photo by Lisa Suter



photo by Lisa Suter



Walking into the high school, the freshman sees students in pajamas, slippers, and curlers. Confused, he wonders if all these students accidentally overslept and didn't have time to get dressed. He walks up to a sophomore and asks what's going on? The sophomore replies that it's pajama day, the first day of spirit week. The freshman realizes that since he is now part of the high school, he can take part in spirit week, along with Activities Night, float building, and the parade.

One thing the freshmen didn't get to participate in was receiving class T-shirts. The T-shirts were made to wear on Activities Night and black and gold day. Thanks to some quick planning by freshman **Michelle Cutka** and her friends, the

continued on pg.10...

—First Time for Everything Freshmen become underclassmen

photo by Lisa Suter





Ring Around the Roses...

Running around senior Laura Johnson, junior Sarah Kagel entertains the school at the pep rally. The cheerleaders combined with the Pantherettes to perform at the pep rally.

photo by Fay Netter



Photo by Fay Netter

HOMEcoming

- *vs. Hammond Clark* 56-0
- *King:* Johnny Vargo; *Candidates:* Shawn Andriessen, Tom Grasha, Adam King, and Craig Konopasek
- *Queen:* Michelle Adame; *Candidates:* Blair Bernath, Julia Demske, Danielle Garnett, and Angela Stout
- *Activities:* Night winners: Seniors: pyramid, powder puff football, tug-of-war, shouting contest. Juniors: leap frog, guy cheerleaders, float. Sophomores: hula hoop relay.
- *Overall: Seniors*
- *Spirit Week:* Monday-pajama day, Tuesday-costume day, Wednesday-dress-up day, Thursday-opposite sex day, Friday-black and gold day

Toilet Paper Anyone?

Senior Mandi Messinio wraps senior Thomas Grasha in toilet paper as part of court's special activities. Grasha was a candidate for king, and Messinio was filling in for senior Danielle Garnett who was unable to attend.

Can-Can Line

Cheering for the junior powder-puff players, juniors Jimmy Terpsira, Christopher Troksa, Ian Flores, Jared Wojcik, Tim Turkowski, Karl Grimmer, Brandon Shropshire, and Jason O'Donnell pump up the crowd during the game. Their hard work paid off when they came off the track with a first place in the guy cheerleading event.

What A Mouthful

Senior Adam King eats a handful of whipped cream during court activities. "I just wanted to have as much fun as I could with Activities Night and the Homecoming game," said King.

Second Time Around

Senior Michelle Adame receives the Homecoming queen crown from last year's king Anthony Stabolito. Adame was also crowned Turnabout princess and was a member of Prom court.

photos by Eric Niles



freshman class did receive shirts.

"My friends and I got together and thought freshmen deserved T-shirts since we were now part of the high school," said Cutka.

One of the major events of Homecoming was Homecoming court and deciding who to vote for king and queen.

"I picked Johnny Vargo for king because he called his girlfriend 'The Woman'," said junior Jason Angel.

Even the drizzling rain on game night didn't damper the players' or fans' spirits. Griffith chalked up another win against Hammond Clark 56-0.

"Everyone looks forward to [Homecoming], and everyone is in a good mood," said junior Michael Andree. "We won the game and the guys had a good time." -Melissa White



photos by Eric Niles

A Little Longer...

Struggling to keep their balance, members of the junior class are told by judge Daniel McCoy to hold their pyramid a few seconds longer. Although the seniors received first, the juniors got second.

First Time, cont.



photo by Bob Neri

Ready To Fly

Putting on E.T.'s football cleat, junior Tennille Grasha along with Theresa Carstensen, junior class sponsor, add the finishing touches to the float. The juniors received first in the float building contest.

A Pretty Picture

Members of the Homecoming court flash their best smile for the camera in the courtyard. The student body voted for the king and queen after they were introduced during a convocation on Thursday.

Gender Crisis

Wearing her letterman's jacket, senior Julia Demske gets her homework out of her locker. "I got a guy's jacket because I think it's more traditional than the girl's, and I also think it's more attractive looking than the girl's," said Demske.

Stylin' and Profilin'

Figuring out her homework, senior Melissa Dec translates the words in the newspaper into Spanish. Many girls chose to cut their hair into an easier, more manageable style.

photo by Linda Mello-hua



photo by Lisa Adams

Making a Statement

Striped sweaters... multicolored hair.... tongue rings... tattoos. What do all these have in common? They're the latest trends and are seen on many students throughout the school. As for haircuts, the flat top, or "George Clooney" is popular for guys, while the girls are growing out their last year's "Jennifer Aniston" cut.

"I used to want to get my tongue triple-pierced, but I don't want to anymore because everyone has their tongue pierced," said senior Jimmy Labas.

Some students don't follow the latest trends. They buy whatever's comfortable, or just what's in the store when they go shopping.

Comfortable vs. fashionable

"I sometimes follow the style of clothes, but mostly that's because it's what they have in the stores at the time," said senior Patrick Eddy.

Different people have different thoughts on what's trendy. It may not be a certain article of clothing, or a certain haircut.

"Altogether, the biggest trend is being different," said Eddy.

-Melissa White



photo by Jay Norton

Chill Out

Cooling off, seniors Michelle Melo, Lizette Bautista, and Kim Sponaugle take a breather during the DECA Lap-athon. Adidas clothing or anything striped was popular.



Photo by Dennis Swender



Photo by Dennis Swender

Pipes! Stripes!

Concentrating in her class, senior Jennifer Flores sports the stylish horizontal stripes on her sweater. Flores also had her tongue pierced.

Trendsetter

Looking over the homework, junior Melissa McCarley passes out the class's dittos. Band T-shirts and hooded sweatshirts became popular this year, and the person didn't even have to attend the band's concert to buy a T-shirt, because some stores sold them.

Ice Ice Baby

Untying his skates, junior **Brandon Shropshire** gets ready to leave the St. John hockey rink. Shropshire and a group of friends played hockey whenever they could get ice time. Although they just play for fun, the hockey lovers hope for a JV team at GHS in the future.

Strike a Pose

Senior **Dawn Gervais** works on perfecting her jazz dance that she and her classmates performed at a dance competition in the spring. Gervais has been dancing at Jeanne's Dance Academy for fifteen years and takes classes in jazz, ballet, and tumbling.

photo by Chris Papa



photo by Eric Nelson



Taking up a Collection

From coins and stamps to baseball cards, almost everyone has collected something sometime in his or her life.

Some collections begin by accident. For example, senior **Jeff Eaton** was just innocently eating candy one day and the next thing he knew he had a shelf with 76 Pez Dispensers.

"I first started liking the candy then thought that the dispensers were cool," said Eaton. "My favorite one I have is Yoda."

Toys reflect students' personalities

Others receive a gift for Christmas as a child, and it becomes a tradition.

"I got my first Cabbage Patch Kid when I was four," said senior **Blair Bernath**. "Ever since then, I've gotten one each Christmas. I have 13 now."

Even though most collections begin by accident, they can become lifelong hobbies and even traditions people can pass on to their children.

-Allison German



photo by Keith Johnson

Beanie Mania

Checking the prices, freshman **Craig Seat** shops around at Griffith Cards and Collectibles. Seat was looking at a "Princess Diana" Beanie Baby, that cost four hundred dollars.



photo by Diana Swender



One Man Band

Junior Eddie Covarrubias plays the piano for his third hour chorale class while his teacher Cynthia Spejewski, music, directs and the other students sing. Along with playing the piano, Covarrubias' hobbies include singing, tennis, playing the french horn, and playing the trumpet.



photo by Tony Papp

Jumping For Joy

Flipping, sophomore Kara Kmiec practices her moves on the trampoline at T-N-T Twisters. Competing against tumblers from 27 different countries, Kmiec placed seventh in synchronized trampoline at the 1996 World Age Group Games held in Vancouver, Canada.

Show Me The Money

Ringin' up a take-out order, senior Stefanie Gould counts the money from the customer. Gould has worked in Anthony's Cafe in Highland since the fall.

photo by Amy Nelson



photo by Tim Sertus

Gone Fishin'

Dipping the net into the tank, junior Amber Scartozzi fishes for algae eaters at Pet Ranch. "I liked working at Pet Ranch because I like interacting with people and telling them stuff like what's wrong with their fish," said senior Michelle Mele, who also worked at Pet Ranch. "Sometimes I felt like a vet."



Finger Lickin' Good

Bagging her order, senior Kelsey Haldi prepares the food for her customer. Haldi has worked at Kentucky Fried Chicken for two years where she is now a manager.



Make the Moola

Counting down her register at Wendy's, junior Jennean Pondo makes sure it doesn't come out over or under. "I got a job at Wendy's because some my friends worked there, and I needed money for car insurance," said Pondo.



Time Well Spent

To live and prosper happily is the goal of many. In the teenage world, money is necessary for many things: going out on weekends, clothes, and sometimes food. Teenagers have two main sources of income: parents and jobs. While parents aren't always willing to give up the cash, jobs are usually a steady flow of income.

While money is often the most popular reason to get a job, gaining skills can also be an incentive.

"[Working at Sandy's Floral] provides me with experience that will come in handy in the future when I own my own floral and gift shop," said senior Charlene Sims.

Even though senior Ryan Melton doesn't plan on ever owning his own business, he gains computer expertise from his job at Office Max.

"I gained some experience with electronics that will help me with becoming a computer engineer," said Melton.

Decisions, Decisions

Putting back unwanted groceries, senior Ben Jordan searches for the next product to be shelved. Jordan has worked at Strack & Van Til for five months as a utility clerk. This year, Strack & Van Til opened on Sundays, giving their workers the opportunity for more hours.

Making money,
gaining skills

Webster's *New World Dictionary* defines job as a piece of work done for pay. While this is true, the skills achieved can be even more beneficial in the long run. —Melissa White

A Look of Love

Shortly after their kiss, seniors Christina Hageman and Christopher Tomcsi prepare to sing a song. Tomcsi has been involved in five plays at GHS, while Hageman has been in three.

Group Hug

Following their performance, seniors Christopher Tomcsi and Jeffrey DeBoer hug former thespian Phil Schroeder. Tomcsi and DeBoer directed the play "Don't Mention My Name" in the spring.

photo by Veronica Calka

Sing 'Tis a Song

Sophomore Julie Newman sings a song, telling Pippin what to do with his life. This was Newman's first time in a play, though she has studied dance at Lou Conti's Dance Studio in Chicago since she was 12 years old.

photo by Eric Norton



A New Experience

The lights dim behind the curtain, everyone's in place and the curtain opens. The show begins. This may be a nervous time for some of the rookies. Out of the 19 newcomers, two of them received major roles in the play. One of them was sophomore Julie Newman, who played the part of Pippin's grandmother Berthe.

"It was really hard memorizing my lines," said Newman. "I didn't remember which lines were said when."

Another newcomer had the same problem with memorizing dances, not lines.

"The dances were hard to remember because you had to make sure you were in sync with the other dancers,"

Rookies get first taste of drama said freshmen Amanda Nichols.

Even though there were a few new actors in the play this year, they worked to memorize and get everything down pat for the final performance. -Tom Morosin



photo by Eric Norton

What A Catch!

Singing, sophomore Christina Govert and junior Eddie Covarrubias show the love between Pippin and Catherine. This was Govert's first time in a drama performance, and Covarrubias has participated in every musical since "The Sound of Music" in 1995.



Almost Perfect

Applying the base to sophomore Christina Govert's make-up, junior Rebecca Amos makes sure every part of skin is covered. Amos has done make-up for GHS plays for three years.



Photo by: Sharon

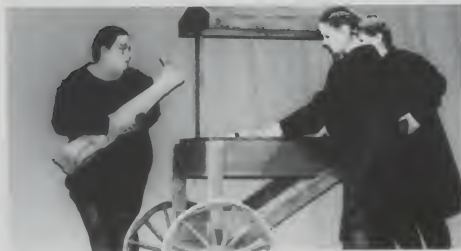


Photo by: Sharon

It's A Dirty Job

Picking up body parts, juniors Jennifer Huesken and Melissa Steapleton and sophomore Jaci Bolsenga clean up after the war. Huesken, Steapleton, and Bolsenga all sang in the chorus.

"PIPPIN"

■ *Summary:* Pippin is a boy going through life and trying to find his place in the world.

■ *Performed:* Friday, Nov. 21; Saturday, Nov. 22; and Sunday, Nov. 23

■ Lead parts:

Christopher Tomesi- Pippin
Jeffrey DeBoer- Leading Player
Christina Hageman- Catherine
John Jensen- Charles
Sarah Kugel- Fastrada
Jason Tomesi- Lewis
Julie Newman- Berthe

■ Approximate Attendance:

Friday- 275 people
Saturday- 350 people
Sunday- 300 people

Lean On Me

Taking a break during health class in the West A V wing, sophomores Nancy Robles and Matthew Sherry talk and relax until the bell rings. Health class was the only time, besides lunch, that the two could spend together.

photo by Dennis Sauerder



photo by Dennis Sauerder

Locker Talk

Taking some time after school by her locker, junior Nichole Ploskonka catches up on the day with her friends, juniors Vanessa Hughes and Keirstin Nagy. The girls were also meeting to discuss their rides home.



Key Girlfriend!

Juniors Jill Blount and Heather Galiher chat after class is over. Blount and Galiher had known each other since elementary school and been best friends since third grade.

photo by Dennis Swander



Button Up

Junior Gabriel Mauch chats with senior Christine Gulota and junior Leeann Henricks before they leave school for the day. The three went to the same church and attended Remnant together.

photo by Dennis Swander



Opposites Attract

"Sure, go ahead and go out with my boyfriend."

This may not be something people hear very often from their friends, but for students that have best friends of the opposite sex, it may not be such a big deal. In a time where guys and girls are becoming equals, it isn't unusual to find them also becoming better friends.

Some students think having friends of the opposite sex is easier, and that they can get along in more ways.

"I think they [guys] would make better friends because you can't get in a fight over the same guy," said senior Kristin Stitt, "or cheat with their boyfriend."

Others agree that when it comes to relating to problems, listening, and having more things to talk about, sometimes a friend of the other gender can be easier to talk to.

Boys and girls becoming better friends

"Some things are just easier to say to a girl, rather than telling my guy friends," said junior Brian Gilbert.

So even though someone's best friend may be of the same sex, becoming friends with the opposite sex sometimes turns out to be the best kind of friendship.

-Nicole Voges

Coming to Terms

Putting together a plan for "war," seniors Jeffrey DeBoer and Chris Tomcsi discuss terms with the girls' side. The girls in Chorale had a sleepover at senior Jorie Flores' house and the boys ambushed the party, as expected by the girls. They proceeded to have "war" until the police arrived and asked the group to quiet down.

photo by Dennis Swander

Drumroll, Please

Crashing his cymbals, freshman Jason Lundquist performs at a football game. The marching band was required to attend all home games and they travelled to Indianapolis to support the team at state.

Freshmen on Parade

Displaying their class flag, freshmen Melissa and Michelle Gaddini get ready to march in the Homecoming parade. The freshmen float was constructed by volunteers as the freshmen had no class council.

photo by Matt Schaefer



Everything in its Place

For the first time in the history of Griffith, the freshmen "officially" became part of the high school. And while the integration of the freshmen was supposed to be a smooth transition, many of them thought that it was very rough.

"It feels like we don't have a school," said freshman Kate Higginbotham. "The high school doesn't want us; the junior high doesn't want us."

Other than the opposition the freshmen faced, they also had to deal with the long distances in between their classes in the two schools.

"Our classes are so far apart that we have to practically run if we don't

Freshmen feel left out

want to be tardy," said freshman Sarah Blanchard. "We have classes in the junior high and the high school, so we have to walk from one end of the building to the other."

Many of the freshmen said that the difficulty in making them part of the high school was caused by poor planning and opposition of the upperclassmen. As it was the first time for freshmen to be part of the high school, many people believed that it was a year to learn how things should be done.

-Josh Martin



photo by Dennis Swendsen

Hanging Around

Reading a note, freshmen Shannon Hammers and Cortney Shropshire take a break during a passing period. According to freshman Sarah Fry, passing periods were barely long enough to make it to classes on time.



photo: Bill Keith Schwan



photo by Katie Schwan

Sunny Side Up

Painting Easter eggs, freshmen Amanda Hall and Cristen Mattozzi meet for Craft Club. Craft Club was one of the few extracurricular activities that was only offered to freshmen.

Hitting The Books

Comparing notes, freshmen Tashaya Taylor and Deborah Race study for their Earth Science class. "When you miss a class, you have to get the notes from someone else in order to catch back up," said freshman Justin Grimmer.

Panther Pride

Painting a panther in the girls' basketball team room, junior **Jason O'Donnell** and senior **Noah Zondor** take time out of their I.R. to help out the girls' coach, **Timothy Powers**. "I felt bad for the short guy [Powers] because I know how he feels. I was just helping him out," said O'Donnell.

photo by Bryan Dimes



photo by Laura Marchant



Making Their Break

Practicing in junior **Amber Scartozzi's** garage, the heavy metal band **Sick Frown** prepares for an upcoming show in Indianapolis. The band consisted of seniors **Glen Novath** and **Steve Keman**, Calumet student **Dustin Novath** and Crown Point senior **Jeremy Jackson**.



photo by Dan Hlavay

Show Me Your Spirit

Finishing decorating a poster at the Griffith Lutheran Church, **Mary Maciszak** works with other parents to provide spirit for the football team. Support for the football team came from parents, fans, students, teachers, cheerleaders, Pantherettes and many others.

photo by Tim Papa



photo by Bryan Dimes

Bring On the Snow

Shoveling a path in front of his house, sophomore **Matt Rusch** tries to make it a little easier for people to get around the snow. The blizzard caused school to be cancelled for three days due to power outages and transportation problems.

Checking Out the Jewels

Looking at their state championship rings, junior **Luke Pierson** and senior **Matthew Pollock** celebrate their victory as state champions. The football team, managers, coaches and cheerleaders received their rings on Thursday, February 12.



Ziggity Boom Rah Rah

Performing in the rain at the annual Homecoming parade, the marching band and Pantherettes march down Broad Street to the school song as Doug and Lucy Whitehead take pictures. The parade was part of Homecoming activities, along with the pep rally, spirit week, float building and activities night.

1997-1998

- *The Chicago Bulls became NBA Champions for the sixth time after beating the Utah Jazz in game six of the NBA Finals.*
- *Princess Diana was killed August 31, 1997 in a car accident in Paris, France*
- *Final episode of Seinfeld aired on May 14, 1998. The show went on for nine years*
- *The movie Titanic became the highest grossing movie of all time*
- *President Clinton is accused of sexual misconduct with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky*
- *Blizzard caused school to be dismissed for three days due to transportation complications and power outages*
It was the first time since the 94-95 school year and the school year was extended for two days at the end of the year
- *Frank Sinatra passed away on May 14, 1998 of a heart attack*

Photo by Dan Haake



Photo by Sharon Gaudich



Shower Cap And All

Sophomore **Brooks Smith** relaxes in his hotel room on the first day of the Seattle convention. The Seattle convention brought in participants from 41 states, five countries and three continents, making it the largest journalism-related convention in the world.

I Love Paris

Touring in Paris, senior **Fay Netos** poses for a picture from the second floor of the Eiffel Tower. Netos went with a group of students from Highland for two weeks, traveling from Paris to Vienna. "It was the greatest experience of my life, and it inspired me to choose my career as a tour guide."

Stud Meets Princess

Taking his turn at the traditional garter removal, sophomore Christopher Brookhart takes off sophomore Samantha Adame's garter. Instead of the traditional crown for the prince, the guys in class council decided to make their own crown.

Circle O' Friends

Singing the night away, sophomore Bonnie Eddy and her friends dance with former Griffith student, junior Brian Batanic. The dance floor was a place where friends could get together and have a good time.

Can You Say Cheesy?

Juniors Carrie Hanchar and Laura Purgert pose for a picture for some friends. Hanchar and Purgert attended the dance with their dates together, along with five other couples.



Dreaming of...freshmen?

Turnabout is a familiar word to many students, and for the sophomores coming into the high school, it is usually their first semi-formal dance. With the adding of the freshmen to the high school came the adding of the freshmen to this year's Turnabout, and there were many mixed feelings about this change.

"I didn't think it was for us [freshmen], but I want to go next year," said freshman **Shauna Santare**. "I knew there weren't a lot of freshmen going, and that we really weren't wanted by the upperclassmen."

Turnabout takes on new tradition

should at least have had to wait to buy tickets until a later date. However, there were also students who didn't mind the change.

"It didn't really bother me that they [freshmen] were invited to go, but I think they may still be too young," said sophomore **Beth Connell**. "I definitely think they should have had to wait to buy their tickets though."

Although there was some controversy about the freshmen coming to the dance and the shortage of tickets, many students made the best of the evening, both the upper and under classmen.

Some sophomores, juniors, and seniors agreed that the freshmen should not be allowed to go, or



-Nicole Voges



To A Little Dance

Swaying to the music, sophomore Madelyn Moore and her date, junior Ian Flores dance to a slow song. Although Flores attended both Prom and Turnabout last year, Turnabout was Moore's first high school dance.



Photos by JACOB SCHWARTZ



'Takin' A Walk

Sophomores Matthew Sherry and Kara Kmiec walk to center stage for the crowning of the prince and princess. Both Sherry and Kmiec were on Turnabout court, although they did not attend the dance together.

No A Rose

Sophomore Kelli Schoon pins a corsage on her date, junior Anthony Papa. The two, who were both on the Reflector staff, went together so they could take pictures of the evening for the yearbook.

TURNABOUT

- **Date, Time, Place:** February 21, 1998; 7:00 p.m.; St. George Greek Orthodox Church
- **Prince:** Christopher Brookhart **Candidates:** Joshua Banning, Jason Lebata, Matthew Sherry, and Craig Sims
- **Princess:** Samantha Adame **Candidates:** Diana Ballas, Allison Gatlin, Kara Kmiec, and Lora Melton
- **Song:** "Dreaming of You" by Selena
- **Colors:** Blue, black, silver
- **Attendance:** 213 tickets sold, 410 people arrived

Pass the Bagels

Passing some time over spring break, senior Jason Carroll and junior Erica Wright laugh as they flip through some magazines. The two had been dating for over a year.

photos by J. Torres/Staff Writer



photo by J. Torres/Staff Writer

Gnabbin' Down

Munching on some Taco Bell, juniors Jennieann Pondo and Nichole Ploskonka relax with a few friends over spring break. "We got really hungry so we made a food run to Taco Bell," said Pondo.



Crusin' the Streets

Driving home in his '62 Ford Fairlane, sophomore **Jacob Johnson** makes a quick stop at home. Johnson was on his way to an Easter party.



Taking a break

Overcast skies and pouring rain aren't ideal weather conditions for an average day. They're even less ideal for spring break. Many students found it necessary to escape the dismal weather which lasted the entire week of spring break.

"My family and I went to Florida," said junior **Ian Wotkun**. "I was especially excited because this gave me an opportunity to expand my coconut collection."

Of course, not everyone needed to get away from the rain. There were those who were content with remaining close to home.

Rain, rain,
go away

"We were in Chicago, going to the south side, and we turned down the wrong street and ended up in Stony Island," said senior **George Scott**. "It was pretty scary."

Flipping the Pages

Looking through a magazine, juniors **Jacqueline Rousseau** and **Tamara Martin** spend some of their spring break at Borders. Borders was a popular hangout for many students to read, enjoy a snack at Cafe Espresso, or just relax and enjoy a band or two.

While grey skies and constant rainfall were less than perfect conditions, most students proved that they could enjoy spring break no matter how bad the weather was.

-**Josh Martin**

One Last Stop

Chatting after school, Kim Vessell, guidance, and Martha Davis, science, catch each other before they head home. Vessell has worked as the guidance secretary for three years.

Working Girl

Scrubbing the tables, Marylyn Kolski gets the cafeteria ready before the next lunch rush. Kolski has been serving food at the school for 31 years. "I enjoy serving the food, but not cleaning up," she laughed.

(photo by Dennis Szwed)



(photo by Dennis Szwed)

Dishing it Out

As a child a student is usually driven school by their mom. By high school a student drives to feel more independent. But going to school and having a mom that works there can put a damper on the freedom. For some students that is not the case. Those students may actually enjoy having their mothers in school.

"I don't mind having my mom in school," said junior **Kristy Florey**. "I like to spend lunch with her."

Florey's mom works in the cafeteria and comes to visit Florey every day at her lunch table. Another student's mom works in the cafeteria: **Jan Michels**. Her daughter is a junior **Jessica Michels**.

Family and school mix

"I like to see my daughter during the day because I can keep an eye on her," said Jan Michels.

Going to school with parents can be a rewarding experience. Despite the busy schedules out of school, it's a chance to spend time with them.

-Tom Morosin



(photo by Dennis Szwed)

Fine & Dandy

Looking up due dates, **Jean Herd** has to keep the computer up to date. Herd works as the assistant librarian in the school library.



Late Night Lady

Organizing her supplies, Jackie Smith gets ready for after school clean up. She worked until eleven making sure the school was spotless for the next day.

Executive Duo

Taking a walk, principal Samuel Cox and assistant principal Donald Josen relieve stress by leaving the office. Cox will be retiring after 24 years of service as principal.

Introduce Yourself

Senior Shane Hudnall and junior Sarah Kagel introduce themselves to new guests sophomores Kathryn LaFayette and Michael Cservenak. This was the first production in which all four actors performed together.

A-bug the Room

Sophomore Michael Cservenak watches as sophomore Kathryn LaFayette searches for "bugs" in the room. LaFayette's older sister, senior Anna LaFayette, was one of the student directors of the play.

photo by Bryan Dumes

Kiss and Tell

Junior Sarah Kagel and senior Shane Hudnall share a passionate embrace on the couch of the Twin Rivers bed and breakfast. *Don't Mention My Name* was Kagel's fourth GHS production and Hudnall's first.

photo by Bryan Dumes



Making Memories

The auditorium lights dim, the curtain opens and the cast begins the show. As the play progresses, the audience might sense a certain bond between the actors. But the actors of the spring play *Don't Mention My Name* really felt bonded and had fun working with each other.

"My favorite part was working with the cast," said senior lead actor **Shane Hudnall**. "I tried out for this play because I saw [the fall musical] *Pippin* and it looked like a lot of fun to be in the cast."

With long practices and late nights, it was nearly impossible for the cast members not to become closely bonded by the time the show was ready for public viewing. When it was all over, though, they all had to adjust to the change in lifestyle.

Castmates form special bond

all over with, I went through withdrawal."

Many of them feel the experience is something they'll always remember.

"I'll never forget all the great times we had goofing around backstage," said Hudnall. "I'm really glad I was able to be a part of it all."

"I became closer to everyone in the cast," said sophomore **Kathryn LaFayette**. "They were who I hung out with all the time. When it was



photo by Bryan Dumes

Welcome!

Senior **Shane Hudnall** welcome sophomores **Michael Cservenak** and **Kathryn LaFayette** as guests of the Twin Rivers Bed and Breakfast. "Mike [Cservenak] would always say things so I wouldn't get nervous before show. One time we danced backstage to release our energy," said LaFayette.

-Lydia Whitehead

Get Ready, Get Set

Senior Jeffery Bice helps with putting the sets together and making sure everything looks right. Bice also helped out his freshman year with the sets and acted as an extra for *The Worst High School Play Ever*.

photo by Dan Maske



photo by Brian Brown

"DON'T MENTION MY NAME"

■ **Summary:** *The Man* has a case of amnesia and is trying to figure out who he is and what he is doing at the *Twin Rivers Bed and Breakfast*

■ **Performed:** Friday March 25, Saturday March 26, and Sunday March 27

■ **Lead parts:**

Shane Hudnall- *Man*
 Sarah Kagel- *Jane Ridgely*
 Mike Cservenak- *Dexter Chandler*
 Kathryn LaFayette- *Sylvia Dutton*
 Carey Baccino- *Verla Perkins*
 Jason Tomcsi- *Paul Miles*
 Diana Ballas- *Kitty Carson*
 Amanda Nichols- *Wilma Chandler*

■ **Approximate Attendance:**

Friday: 100 people
Saturday: 100 people
Sunday: 90 people

photo by Brian Brown

Love and Marriage

Junior Sarah Kagel simply smiles as sophomores Kathryn LaFayette and Michael Cservenak pretend to be married. "Our characters were acting like a happy couple in order to throw Sarah's character off," said Cservenak.

BANQUETS

- *Fall Sports Banquet*
- Football Banquet*
- Winter Sports Banquet*
- Bowling Club Banquet*
- Pantherette Banquet*
- Quill and Scroll Banquet*
- Senior Banquet*
- Top 10 Dinner*
- Music Department Banquet*
- DECA Banquet*
- Cheerleading Banquet*
- Spring Sports Banquet*



photo by Andy Rapa

'The Winning Walk'

Walking back to his seat after receiving the Best Mental Attitude award for the varsity baseball team, junior Ryan Hill participates in the spring sports banquet. The spring banquet honored baseball, softball, boys track, girls track, girls tennis, and golf.



I Love You, Man

Seniors Chris Tomcsi and Adam O'Brien pose for a picture at the senior banquet. "The best part about the banquet was being able to see and interact with some people for one of the last times as GHS students," said Tomcsi.



Photo by Eric Sander

Editor Love

Making their speech at the Quill and Scroll banquet, seniors Vanessa Cutka and Lydia Whitehead talk about the Top 12 things they learned on yearbook staff. The Quill and Scroll Banquet was held at Jonathan's and included an awards ceremony, the announcement of Quill and Scroll officers, and a slide show.

Photo by Dennis Sander



An Award Winning Night

Food, awards, friends, and reminiscing about the year were all part of most banquets held this year. Whether it was one of the many sports banquets, the DECA banquet, or the senior banquet that students attended, most agreed it was a time for spending time with friends, teachers, coaches, and family before the end of the year.

"The worst part of the banquet was having to see coaches come up and say goodbye to the seniors for the last time," said junior **Tennille Grasha**.

Waiting in line for food seemed to be a complaint from many students that attended banquets.

"At every banquet, I never get any good food because all the parents take it first," said sophomore **Christina Govert**.

Senior **Michael Zolcak** agreed that things could go wrong at banquets.

"We thought we had more people than we had chairs and tables at the [DECA] banquet," said Zolcak.

Even though banquets caused some people stress, most students agreed that they were a time to look back at the year and remember the good and bad times of the year.

-Nicole Voges

Sneak Peek

Taking a look at sophomore **Samantha Quintero's** plaque, junior **Nicole Huber** and Quintero take a break from the spring sports banquet. Quintero received the junior varsity softball MVP award.

Photo by Eric Sander

Last time
to reminisce

PROM

- *Date, Time, Place:* May 8, 1998; 7 p.m.; Hellenic Center, Merrillville
- *King:* Jeremy Buzea *Candidates:* Ryan Hill, Clinton Konopasek, Erick Maciszak, and Jim Terpstra
- *Queen:* Nicole Huber *Candidates:* Joan Doppler, Amanda Marcus, Jennifer Vaznonis, and Laura Zagrocki
- *Song:* "We've Got Tonight" by Bob Seger
- *Colors:* Iridescent white and pastel colors
- *Attendance:* 167 tickets sold, 334 people arrived



photo by Dennis Swender

Gettin' Aggy With It

Laughing together, sophomore Kevin Berger and senior Michelle Mele groove to the music. The Electric Slide and Macarena were two of the popular dances played, while the Chicken Dance was not.

Smiles All Around

After being crowned Prom queen, junior Nicole Huber waits for the spotlight dance between her and the king, Jeremy Buzea. This was Huber's first time on a court.



photo by Dennis Swender



Copysats

Showing some leg, juniors Clinton Konopasek and Ryan Sarver, senior Nicholas Spitz, and juniors Timothy Duke and John Vaneck pose for a picture before Prom. The guys wanted to imitate their dates' garter shot by pulling up the leg of their pants.

Pucker Up

Applying lipstick, junior Darla Domsic helps junior Amy Worth prep for Prom. Friends were often called upon to help with makeup, hair, and nails.



Oh, What a Night!

Prom-goers plan on going to the dance, taking a lot of pictures, dancing, and leaving with many memories. One thing they don't plan on is getting sick.

"On the way there [Prom], my friend got sick and we had to pull over," said sophomore Lora Melton.

Fortunately, this didn't happen to most prom-goers and they found ways to enjoy the evening. Couples slow danced

and some even fast danced, although not all guys agreed to and opted to sit down

Unexpected plans turn up at Prom

during the fast dances.

"I agreed beforehand to slow dance and my girlfriend tried to get me to fast dance but I wouldn't," said junior Kyle Plesniak.

After the dance ended, couples climbed in their limos or cars and drove off to enjoy the rest of the night. For seniors, memories of their last Prom were made; for juniors and sophomores, they looked forward to next year's Prom.

-Melissa White

Burn Baby Burn

Stopping to take a picture, juniors Timothy Duke, Clinton Konopasek, and John Vanek attempt to start a fire to cook hamburgers and hot dogs for dinner. The three camped overnight at Turkey Run.

Cooking Out

Senior Nicholas Gomez and former GHS student Tony Nelson cook hamburgers on a campfire at Waveland Lake. Gomez attended the dance with senior Nikki Haluska and Nelson attended with senior Erin Ritter.



What a weekend, what a trip

The big night is over, most girls have taken the pins out of their hair and their high heels off and the guys have long ago taken off the vest and bow tie, but for most students that attend prom, the excitement isn't yet over. Whether it's going to Chicago, Turkey Run, Great America, Indiana Beach or just to the Dunes, most prom-goers tried to make the fun last all weekend, and some found trouble where they least expected it.

A battle with nature

thing that happened all weekend."

Most students thought the weekend of prom was fun, although some did experience minor setbacks and some had to battle with nature more closely than they would have liked to.

"We went to Turkey Run and on the way home we heard this buzzing noise; I was driving so I couldn't do anything about it but there was a huge bee in the van and we were all screaming," said junior Traci Duncan. "It was more like a small mammal than a bee." —Nicole Voges

"We went fishing and [senior] Michelle [Adame] was holding a fish and it bit off her nail," said senior Craig Konopasek. "That was the funniest



Look At Me

Balancing on a fallen tree, former Griffith student Ben Loudenberg and senior Kimberly Webb walk one of the trails at Turkey Run. Loudenberg attended with junior Kelly Schoeffel.



Can You Make It

Testing the water at the Punchbowl, junior Jason Angel attempts to climb a log as his friends watch. The group was hiking on a trail at Turkey Run.

Pass Me A Bun

Grilling out in the parking lot of Great America, seniors Fran Costello, Johnny Vargo, Dennis Palucki, and Efrén Robles enjoy a quick lunch before heading into the amusement park. After spending so much money at prom, the group decided to save money and not buy food in the park.

For the Class of '98

Unrolling his gift, Mr. Samuel Cox presents an enlarged picture of the senior class to senior class president Julia Demske. Cox told Demske to bring the picture to the ten year reunion.

Where Are They?

Looking around, seniors Dawn Gervais and Allison Gierman search for their family amid the audience. "There was so many people there that it took us both a long time to find our families," said Gierman.

Want Some Help?

Trying to help senior Blair Bernath, senior Jeffrey Eaton checks out the balloons. Many parents and friends of the graduates bought them flowers or balloons.

photo by Tony Papa



photo by Tony Papa



The Last Dance

For most seniors, graduation was the last time they'd set foot inside the school, see many of their acquaintances, and be known as seniors. Once they switched their tassels to the right side and accepted their diplomas, they became college freshmen.

"Mrs. Keithley was a teacher who made it feel like she really cared; she'd sit down and listen to you," said senior Susan Garibay. "She got along with everybody."

Perhaps one of the most memorable events of high school was the very last: graduation. Salutatorian Daniel Falda's most memorable moment was the experience of giving a speech at commencement.

Seniors say sayonara

speeches," said Falda.

Graduation is defined as the receipt of an academic degree or diploma marking the completion of studies. It completes high school, the shelter of parents, and life as most seniors know it.

"I didn't feel nervous before my speech, but after I sat down my heart was beating so fast and so loud I couldn't hear the other



photo by Tony Papa

Hat Toss

Cheering, seniors Adam O'Brien, Chris Tomcsi, Melinda Abbott, Tim Adams and Joseph Bonnema throw up their caps after officially graduating. Although some seniors chose not to toss up their caps, many did.

-Melissa White



"Congratulations"

Shaking hands with Russ Radtke, senior class sponsor, senior Craig Konopasek exchanges words after accepting his diploma. The seniors were given their diplomas by either Mr. William Gall or Mr. John Galambos, the girls received a flower from Mrs. Constance Textor, and every graduate shook hands with Radtke.



'Talkin' it Up

Conversing, seniors Michelle Blessing and Steven McGuire laugh together during the band's performance. The graduating senior band members joined the present band members to play "The Gathering of the Ranks at Hebron."

GRADUATION

- Date, time, place: June 12, 1998; 7 p.m., Varsity gymnasium
- Valedictorian: *Tania Flitter*
- Salutatorian: *Daniel Falda*
- 3. *Shane Hudnall*
- 4. *Ryan Melton*
- 5. *Manda Spencer*
- 6. *David Wilcoxson*
- 7. *Jeffrey Eaton*
- 8. *Steven McGuire*
- 9. *Adam O'Brien*
- 10. *Chris Tomesi*
- Class Motto: *Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the things you did. Explore. Dream. Discover.*
- Class flower: *Yellow rose*
Class colors: *Black and gold*

the definition of a student

student n. *one who attends a school, college or university; one who makes a study of something; an attentive observer.* As students of GHS and members of the student body, learning and preparing for life after high school was a goal for most. New changes and more requirements made it more challenging for students to graduate and go to college. ISTEPs now required that sophomores who failed the test take it again every year until they pass or they wouldn't be able to graduate from high school. The graduating class of 1998 was the first class whose curriculum had to fulfill the Core 40 requirements or they wouldn't be able to attend an Indiana college. By taking the required classes, students could also meet the requirements for the Honors Diploma, a certificate upheld by many colleges. All these new and old conditions helped to enrich students' experience in the classroom, made them more well-rounded students, and set higher standards for the definition of a student.



HEF BOYARDEE Junior Anthony Washick places his bread on a pan to prepare to cook croque monsieur for his French II class. The class also made French bread(also called baguettes) in celebration of Mardi Gras.

photo by Tim Norris



YOU

...a student

"A student is someone that listens to teachers and tries to do everything that they can to learn and get good grades."

—junior Shaun Doyle

"I think a student is someone who wants to succeed in whatever they do and who sets goals for their life."

—senior Jesse Vaca

"A student is a person that pays attention in class and doesn't fool around. Students work hard and have the ability to accomplish many goals."

—freshman Stacey Kapcia

"I think a student is someone who tries their hardest to learn all they can and wants to do well in school and in life."

—sophomore Pamela Sims

Family *learning*

Four siblings in one school

Looking down the hall, students see a lot of different faces in the hallway. It's hard to believe that some of them are related. The Paul family consists of one sophomore, two juniors, and a senior. It may be different having four siblings in the same school.

"I like having them in school," said sophomore **Amanda Paul**. "It's a good experience to know that they will always help you."

Having brothers and sisters can be a learning experience. It can be an advantage to have brothers and sisters and be able to get help from them whenever they need it.

"I think it's a good learning experience," said junior

Michelle Paul. "Whenever I need help I can go to them."

Michelle and her sister Cassandra are in the same grade and help each other daily with their homework.

"When my sister or I miss a day of school we can get our assignments from each other," said junior **Cassandra Paul**.

These siblings have all helped each other in one way or another. Whether getting homework done or helping with others problems they learned from each others mistakes and stuck it out as a family.

-Tom Morosin



photo by Cheryl Schneider



photo by Deborah Schneider

*L*ounging around, seniors Tony and Todd Doctor sit by their lockers together before the school day starts. The twins were also on the boys' soccer team together.



*D*oing their homework, juniors Jamie and Jodie Kunkemoeller work together to get the job done. The twins helped each other because they had a lot of the same classes.

Attempting to do her homework, senior Christina Barriga throws a pillow at her brother freshman William Barriga. William decided to bother his sister while she was doing her advanced biology homework.

Acting together, senior Chris and Jason Tomcsl play brothers in life and on stage. This was the second time the brothers had acted in a fall musical.

Photo by Pat Gorton



Photo by Pat Gorton



Photo by Lisa Page



Which type of sibling do students prefer?

- a) Brother
- b) Sister
- c) None of the above

Test your smarts

Answers:

Compiled By: Tom Morosin

Dancing the night away, sophomore Lisa and senior Ginger Hartman get down to a fast song at Turnabout. The two sisters found time on their dance card for each other.

Future learning

Students test out careers

Going to one school is hard enough, but imagine going to two different schools everyday.

Exploratory teachers go to the elementary schools during the first two periods of the day, but it's not all fun. These students aren't doing this just to get out of school, but to plan for the future.

"I am not going to be a teacher," said senior **Jessie Vaca**. "I'm going to see what age kids I would like to work with in ministry."

Some students do go to exploratory teaching because they are thinking about how it will prepare them for future teaching jobs.

"I think that it's a good experience to see if I really want to teach," said senior **Trisha Verbich**.

The exploratory teaching program helps students explore their career goals. If they are thinking about going into teaching or maybe another career, exploratory teaching can help make them better prepared.

-Tom Morosin



photo by Gina Marchica



photo by Tony Papa

Packing up groceries, senior **Jennifer Theodozio** left after sixth hour to go work for the I.C.E. program. Theodozio worked as a bagger at Strack & Van Til in Griffith.



Mixing paint, sophomore **Stephanie Winebrenner** compares the different colors. Winebrenner was part of the industrial technology program. She took the class to learn more about cars.



Spellingchecking, senior **Trisha Verbich** helps Alex Tibbs with a journal project. Verbich helped Phyllis Melton, a first grade teacher at Ready Elementary School.

Cleaning utensils, senior **Tracy Govert** works fast to get another patient in. Govert worked at Dr. Yekel's dentist office as an assistant to the dentist.

photo by: Tony Papa



photo by Tony Papa



Test your smarts

*Do you plan to use I.C.E.
& Exploratory teaching
in your career?*

a) Yes

b) No

Compiled By: Tom Morosin

Helping with reading, senior **Kelsey Haldi** works with fourth grader **Andy Nashcoff**. "I took exploratory teaching because I really want to teach," said Haldi.

Taking a test in his advanced English class, senior David Wilcoxson tries to recall answers about the Renaissance period. "We've all been in the same classes for years, and we've really gotten to know each other well," Wilcoxson said.

Drawing a picture off of a photo, senior Stephanie Smith works vigorously in her advanced drawing/painting class. Art was one of the subjects which offered an advanced class.



photo by Kelli Schorn



photo by Kelli Schorn



Identifying the different parts of the skull, senior Mandi Messinio points out a bone to senior Danielle Garnett. The two, who were in advanced biology, had to identify bones as well as dissect a fetal pig later in the year for the class.

Test your smarts

What's the most favored part of being in an advanced/ AP class?

- a) meeting new friends
- b) challenging environment
- c) college credit/preparation
- d) testing out of college courses

Answer: c

Compiled By: Nicole Voges

"Quote Unquote"



"In advanced economics we get to track stocks for the stock market," said senior Adam Barks, "and that's probably one of the coolest things we've done."



"AP biology is really a lot of hard work," said junior Melissa Steapleton, "but the different topics we get into are very interesting."



Looking on as Mr. William Platt, math, does calculus problems on the board, senior **Daniel Falda** follows along. Falda was in AP calculus, AP English, and advanced economics.

Concentrating hard in their AP biology class, juniors **Karl Grimmer** and **Sarah Kagel** work together to finish an assignment. This was the first official year of advanced placement biology.



Excelled *learning*

Taking classes to a higher level

If you think your Algebra II class is almost impossible, or if nothing is harder than advanced biology, think again. There are advanced placement classes offered in calculus, biology, and English. This year was the first official year for AP biology.

"In AP biology, it is our goal to get through the entire book, just like the freshman course in college," said **Sandra Beahm**, science. "If the students do well enough in the course, they may receive college credits for it."

Senior **Megan Harveth** has been in enriched math since seventh grade, and her favorite part about it is the friends she has made.

"You are usually with the same people that you have been with since seventh grade, so you get to be good friends," said Harveth.

After spending so much time with the same people, great friendships can develop.

"I met my best friend Nick [Gomez] in my science class in seventh grade when we were lab partners," said senior **Efren Robles**.

Friendships were made and college credits were attained. AP classes gave students a taste of college in a high school classroom.

-Melissa White

Photo by: [illegible]

Finishing a project for her sewing classes, sophomore Caryn Miller pins her pattern to her material to cut.

photo by Fay Nixen



Fixing a pot for ceramics, senior Johnny Vargo puts the finishing touches on one of his projects. Vargo spent nine weeks on the pot and plans to sell it in the art show for \$300.

photo by Tony Papa



photo by Fay Nixen

Working intently, senior Rene Reyna and junior Christopher Pike finish a metal project during jewelry class.

Test your smarts

What's the most wanted elective of the 97-98 school year?

- a) sewing
- b) interior decorating
- c) APC
- d) ceramics

Answer: d

Compiled By: Nicole Voges

“Quote Unquote”



“Carrying that baby around, [for child development] was the best birth control you could ever take,” said junior Bridgette Wayo.



“They [electives] seem to be less tense, and it's going to be a class that you're definitely interested in if you took” it, said junior Jamie Foy.

photo by Kelli Schoon



Stenelling a project for interior decorating, sophomore **Heather Rivera** gets to practice designing for future use in her own home.

Taking break from art class, freshman **Jason Kane** plays with a protractor while freshman **Shannon Ray** works on a project.

photos by Fax Norton



Ultimate *learning*

Electives add spice to class

Just another boring school day, and the same old seven classes await. Not if you get to watch Judge Judy that day, or get to go see a mansion worth \$1.5 million.

For this reason, most students chose to fit one or more electives, like business law or interior decorating into their itinerary each year.

Electives can be an interesting alternative to the basic required classes, but are not always the blow-offs they are assumed to be.

"I'm going on a real interview in career prep, for whatever career I choose," said senior **Candice Rossner**.

Many students find that they can learn a lot in electives, while adding a twist of fun to an otherwise boring schedule. Electives can also offer learning you might not receive in other classes.

"I loved that class [child development 1], it's the best one I've ever taken," said junior **Jennifer Vazonis**. "The best part is that you're having so much fun, you don't realize that you're learning at the same time."

-Nicole Vöges

Looking over a paper, juniors Jacqueline Rousseau, Suzanne Wargo, and Melisa Smilowski have a snack in the DECA room. Many students used lunch as a time to study and finish homework.



photo by Tony Papa

Taking time out to study on the ledge, junior Michelle Paul helps her sister, sophomore Amanda Paul prepare for a test. The breezeway area was a popular spot for students to study and relax before and after school.



photo by Kelly Schuman



Giving a hand to sophomore Salvador Aguilar, sophomore Lara Gonzales points out an answer on a crossword puzzle. The two worked on the puzzle during a free day in English class.

Test your smarts

Who would students at G.H.S. prefer to have as a "study buddy"?

- a) friend
- b) himself
- c) family member
- d) boyfriend/girlfriend

ANSWER: b

Compiled By: Nicole Voges

"Quote Unquote"



"I can't study unless I'm doing something else at the same time," said junior Clint Konopasek. "I have to be listening to the radio or watching TV or something."

"Whenever there's something hard to do in chemistry and I don't understand, Jeremy [Buzeal] and I get together to work things out," said junior Timothy Duke. "It helps because we're in class together, so we have the same problems."





Working together, sophomores Erica Garnett and Danielle Peterson look over instructions for an art project. Many students asked friends to help them study and work.

Talking before the bell, sophomore Matthew Sherry and junior Nathan Ramsey look over a paper. Studying before class was a popular choice for some students.



Friendly *learning*

Getting by with a little help...

Who would want to spend any more time working on school assignments and projects than they had to? There aren't very many students who would, but when you add a few friends and some fun it might not be so bad.

For some students, researching for a paper or doing homework isn't all that dull when there's someone to accompany them. Having a "study buddy" can sometimes make things a little easier and less serious.

"For biology, I go to the library with Andjela [Subotic] to do research," said sophomore Mirjana Vlahovic, "or sometimes we go to one of our houses to work on projects."

When students need help with homework or a project, there's usually someone they know they can count on to help them. Freshman Gregory Bowers is used to his fellow classmates asking for his help, and he is usually willing to give it.

"I help people study over the phone usually," Bowers said. "I'll explain what they need to know and then let them try it by themselves."

Although studying may not be some students' favorite activity, some feel it can be made easier with the help of a friend or two. —Nicole Voges

Photo by Keith Scherer

Helpful *learning*

students help teachers

It's fifth hour and the student cheers "I'm an aide this hour." But the aides do more than grade papers. They help in different ways.

"When the spring choir concert came, I helped the seventh graders with their dances," said junior **Darla Domsic**.

Whether it's being a dance instructor, or just picking up the attendance slips the aides kept busy.

"I am an attendance aide and besides picking up the slips I get to run errands," said junior **Amy Worth**.

The teachers have to keep the students busy. They give them special assignments.

"I like to keep them busy by giving them errands to run and if there is nothing for them to do they can have study time" said **Susan Patricks, English**.

Whether it's free time or a full hour of grading papers and running errands being a student aide was hard work. **-Tom Morosin**



photo by Fay Niles



Hunching over, senior Amanda Vanek writes a pass for one of the nurse's patients. The nurse's aide had to record everyone who came in.



Grading papers, senior Stacey Iglieski serves as the French aide. She had to grade the spelling and punctuation on the worksheets and tests.



photo by Dennis Swender

Taking attendance, senior Jeffrey Eaton checks over the attendance passes. The attendance aides had to walk around and pick up the attendance slips every day.

Convincing Brenda Price secretary to let him leave, senior Jessie Vaca has his keys ready to go. Vaca was an office aide. The office aide had to answer the phone and make copies.

photo by Dennis Swender



photo by Dennis Swender



Test your *smarts* **Which teacher has the most students request to be their aide?**

- a) Mrs. Davis
- b) Mr. Powers
- c) Mr. Platt
- d) Mr. McCoy

Answer: d

Compiled By: Tom Morosini

Taking a break, sophomore Tabitha Chavez and freshman Tammy Milton wait for someone to come in the library. The library aides checked passes and helped organize the books.

Bookless *learning*

Labs offer a new way to learn

Get your prelabs out and go to your lab stations said the chemistry teacher. The class cheers. Labs are a different way of learning without using the textbook.

"I think all the labs we do are fun," said junior Jill Palmer. "They help us learn the material easier."

Labs also teach safety. The first day of class is usually spent going over safety instructions.

"I learned the safety of what we use; like fire," said freshman Daniel Schoon. "I love labs with fire."

Labs can be more beneficial than lectures because the students can actively participate. One teacher thinks that labs help students a lot.

"Labs are supposed to be hands on learning," said Scott Murray, science. "When the students see some of this in action it helps them understand it more."

Labs may take some elbow grease, but the rewards pay off when the report cards come out. Besides the good grades, the students learn a new way without a boring lecture.

-Tom Morosin

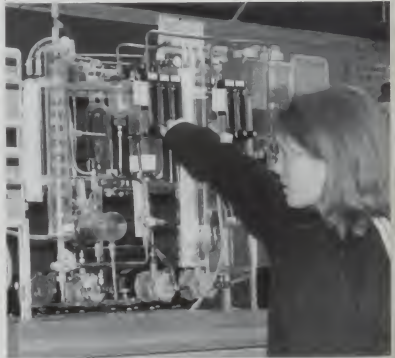
photo by Fay Nelson



Holding a piece of candy, seniors Mandi Messinio, Erin Ritter, Shannon Brandon, Anna Lafayette, and Julia Demske rub it on their hands and then shake other classmates' hands. The experiment was to show how bacteria spreads and how to trace it back to the owner.



photo by Tom Papa



Adjusting the correct amount of heat, junior Jill Blount keeps the temperature near 65 degrees or else she can't make petroleum. This lab was brought by two Amoco representatives who shared how to make petroleum with the chemistry students.



photos by Fay Netos

Testing the water temperature, junior Heather Galihier charts the temperature to find the combustion rate of water. The lab also tested for the mass of the candle used in the lab.

Working on his assignment, senior Daniel Gomez has to translate an American newspaper to Spanish. Gomez has been in Spanish for four years.

photo by Fay Netos



photos by Tom Papa



What is the most popular kind of lab to do in school?

Test Your Smarts

- a) Dissecting labs
- b) Chemical labs
- c) Fire labs

Answers:

Compiled By: Tom Morosin

Turning the key, junior Leslie Piszczek demonstrates how her baby cries to her French class. This lab was done in the child development classes to teach the students the responsibilities of parenting.

Searching the newspapers for an assignment in Journalism class, sophomore **Arianna Hecht** points out an interesting picture to sophomore **Jessica Everhart** as they work.

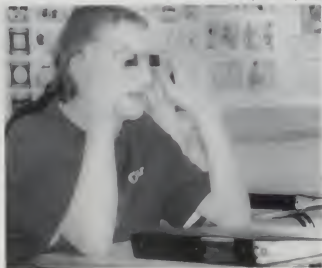


photo by Fay Norton

Relaxing after a test in history class, juniors **Jamie Foy** and **Timothy Duke** joke around with **Daniel McCoy**, social studies.



photo by Fay Norton



Watching a movie in 3-D, senior **Nick Maxberry** learns about jobs of the future. The ITI technical institute sponsored the movie and provided the glasses to the economics classes taught by **James Pickett**, social studies.

Test your smarts

What was the most popular project of the 97-98 school year?

- a) the cell
- b) baby think it over
- c) Shakespearean project
- d) published magazine cover

Answer: a

Compiled By: Nicole Voges

photo by Jennifer Swenker

"Quote Unquote"



"History class is pretty fun," said junior **Ryan Sarver**. "Mr. [Daniel] McCoy is a cool teacher and he jokes around alot."



"[Timothy Powers] came up with really interesting assignments," said senior **Jeff DeBoer**. "And for as hard of a class as government is, he keeps people's attention."



Messing around in his spare time, senior Michael Kelley plays with a coil during his ceramics class. Kelley finished his assigned project early, so he could experiment with the clay.

Playing a game of duck-duck-goose, junior Nichole Ploskonka leads her neighbor, Ashlyn Paris around the circle as part of a project for Margie Keithley's child development class.

photos by Jay Netos



Enjoyable *learning*

Having a blast in class

What if, instead of the normal, everyday school atmosphere you spent your time behind the wheel, a potters wheel that is? Or what if you conducted your class in a closet? For the four students in fourth level French, that is exactly what they do.

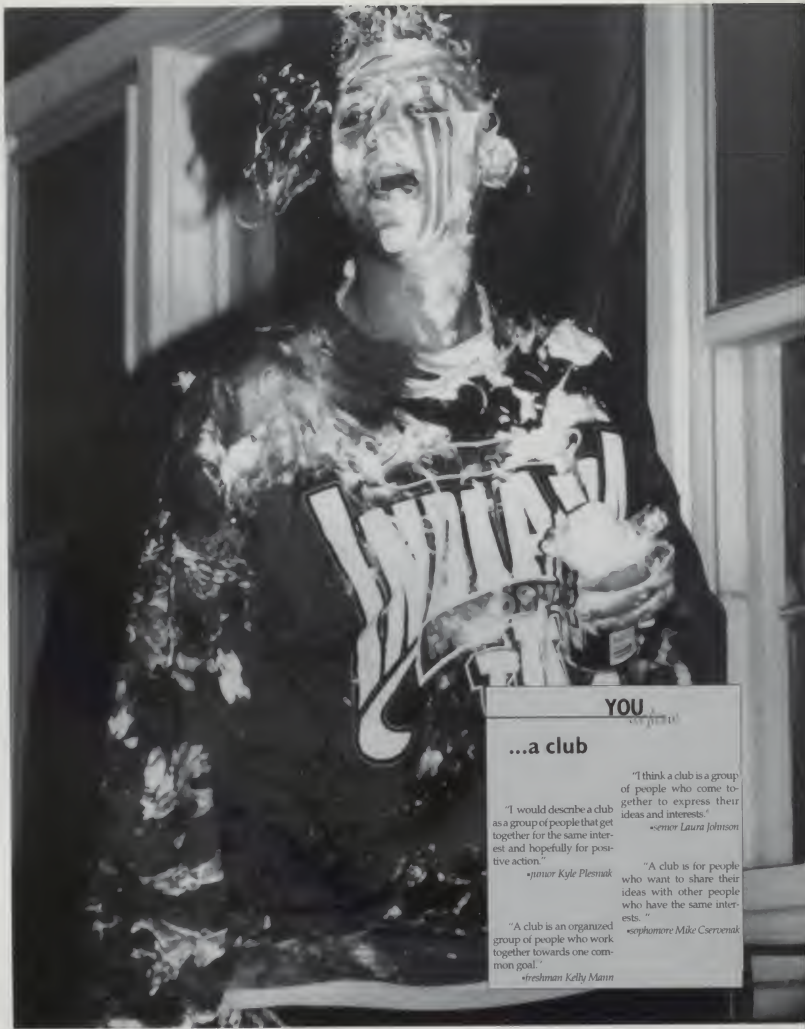
"He [Scott Fech, foreign language] doesn't really give us deadlines," said senior **Nicole Huitsing**. "He just gives us an idea and lets us go with it."

But, electives aren't the only classes where excitement can be found. According to some students, there are also required classes that are fun at times.

"The labs we do in there [Chemistry A], are really interesting," said junior **Jeremy Buzea**, "and Mr. [Scott] Murray has a really good sense of humor."

Even though at times school might seem long, for some, group projects, labs and other time-filling activities can make the day bearable. When it comes to having fun, a little could go a long way in the field of learning.

-Nicole Voges



YOU

...a club

"I would describe a club as a group of people that get together for the same interest and hopefully for positive action."

—*junior Kyle Plesniak*

"A club is an organized group of people who work together towards one common goal."

—*freshman Kelly Main*

"I think a club is a group of people who come together to express their ideas and interests."

—*senior Laura Johnson*

"A club is for people who want to share their ideas with other people who have the same interests."

—*sophomore Mike Cserenak*

the definition of a club

fundraisers
service
teamwork
field trips
leadership
culture

club *n.* a group of people organized for a common purpose, especially a group that meets regularly. With 31 clubs to choose from, students had a variety of clubs to find out where they fit in. If it was donating their service to the community with the National Honor Society, sponsoring a door-decorating contest in SADD, or learning the aspects of business with DECA, students had the opportunity to enhance their high school experience by teaming up with other students with similar interests. The Art Club helped direct students interested in drawing, painting and sculpting. Remnant gave students the chance to learn more about religion and explore their beliefs. Writer's Block, the newest addition to the club scene, provided students with the opportunity to have their stories and poems heard by their peers. The varieties of choir and band clubs allowed students to express their musical talents and gain performing experience, and the Spanish Club enhanced students' culture and language. With these and other clubs, students had the chance to further enhance their high school experience outside the classroom and define themselves and their lives.

■

GETTING CREAMED Senior Jorie Flores yells to the other Chorale members after a shaving cream fight at her house in February. "The whole thing started when [seniors] Jeff DeBoer and Chris Tomcsi totally creamed [senior] Blair [Bernath]'s car back in October," said Flores. "The four of us had been getting each other with shaving cream ever since. That night was the last big night we really got each other."



photos by Rita Larson

Front Row: Fay Netos, Lydia Whitehead, Vanessa Cutka **Second Row:** Andrea Reed, Jill Hulse, Nicole Jones, Jennifer Redar, Allison Gierman **Third Row:** Nathan Papp, Megan Clarke, Thomas Morosini, Angela Strain, Joshua Martin, Melissa White



Front Row: Chris Tomcsi, Jason Carroll, Bryan Duney, Rebecca Amos, Carolyn Brown **Second Row:** Jamaal Bell, Cara Massa, Amanda Tomlinson, Chad Smith, David Papp, Steven Jerome, Gina Wentzela, Steven McGuire **Third Row:** Bonnie Hallsted, Patrick Riordan, Carl Anne Zimmerman, Daniel Falda, Kristopher Anderson, Scott Gierman, Amy Harnew



Front Row: Jillian Tsirtsis, Nicole Matusz, Holly Burgess, Shannon Hammers, Elizabeth Guzman **Second Row:** Jennifer Marinos, Cara Wachter, Katie Miffman, Courtney Schoon **Third Row:** Selena Sullana, Tracy Miller, Kathleen Vaneck, Alison Bridegroom, Valerie Anderson



Front Row: Larry Bagdasarian, Janel Valenzuela, Sarah Blanchard, Ken Omland, Benjamin Rodriguez, Susan Smith, Jonathan Powell, Matthew Filter, Jeffrey Cook, Steven Hunsley, Daniel Schen **Second Row:** Hannah Zemke, Elizabeth Dash, Rachel Thomas, Toshaya Taylor, Stacie Kapciak, Amanda Kates, Brian Gonzalez, John Jensen, Paul Dalach, Scott Negrete, Richard Pascoe, Victor Sendejas





Photo by Tim Moore

Junior Leann Henricks and freshman Daniel RJordan sell their goods to sophomore Allen Slawikowski during lunch at the Remnant bake sale. Remnant was raising money for the baccalaureate, a commencement address.

New uniforms, field trips, decorated hallways, and workshops are all things that students enjoy. Money is needed for all of these things, and raising money is not always something students enjoy.

As an active member in many clubs, junior **Nicole Voges** realized that fundraising is an important part of nearly every organization.

"Fundraising is definitely not the best part of being in a group or club," said Voges. "But sometimes it's necessary to make things happen."

Sophomore **Dan Haake** enjoyed the benefits that came with selling candy and other items.

"I plan to use the money from fundraising for our trip to Seattle for the National Journalism Convention," said Haake. "It will be a great learning experience."

No matter how much the club members protested about selling candy or keychains or carnations, the students appreciated the products of their hard work.

-Allison Giernan

MAKING the sale



photo by Tony Tigga

Selling sweet-o-grams, senior Decca member **Timothy O'Connell** takes the money from senior **Brenda Moore** as he hands the grams to her. Decca delivered the grams along with a sucker to students on Sweetest Day.

Senior Christina Hageman organizes her group of flowers before putting them out. Remnant members sold carnations to students who wanted to send Valentine's Day messages to their friends.



photo by Cap Nelson

Checking out the merchandise, juniors **Cassandra Paul** and **Elizabeth Wilson** examine Paul's suckers. Spanish Club members sold skull suckers in honor of the Spanish holiday Day of the Dead.



Preparing for the pain, senior Dennis Palucki tries not to look as a nurse takes his blood at National Honor Society's blood drive that was held on April 1. The blood drive raised 82 pints of blood.



With homework, sports, extracurricular activities, and friends, many students felt as though there weren't enough hours in the day to do everything. However, some students made the extra effort to take time to do service projects.

Some Student Council members found the time during Christmas break to help with the Meals on Wheels Program.

"We drove around and delivered food to elderly or disabled people," said senior Ryan

DONATING their time

Melton. "It seemed like a good cause and I had the time to spare, so I did it."

Honor Society members were able to take a break from school in order to sponsor the annual Blood Drive.

"I helped get people to sign up to donate blood to give to people who need it," said senior Angela Mattozzi.

Club members felt that the small sacrifices they made paid off.

"If a few gallons of gas can help somebody then it's worth it," said Melton.

-Allison Gierman



Front Row: Angela Mattozzi, Laura Johnson, Laura Zagrocki, Steven McGuire, Ryan Melton, Tania Fliter, Melissa White, Sarah K. Go. Second Row: Candice Rossner, Rebecca Amos, Shain Doyle, Lydia Whitehead, Jeffrey Patton, Dale Rudzinski, Christina Jewett, Jennifer Spiegel, Siiane Hudnall Third Row: Karl Grimmer, Julia Demsko, Melissa Sims, Bryan Duncy, Daniel Falda, Chris Tomcisi, Rachael Nichols, Michelle Adame Fourth Row: Bonnie Hallsted, Manda Spencer, Amanda Marcus, Fran Costello, Jorie Flores, Anna LaFayette



Front Row: Candice Rossner, Jill Palmer, Jay Netos, Nicole Voges, Mandi Messinio, Jennifer Vaznonis, Michelle Adame, Stefanie Gould, Carrie Gullone Second Row: Sarah Kugel, Stacy Buckner, Amanda Kasper, Laura Zagrocki, Jean Doppler, Nicki Hughes, Claire Bonath, Allison Gierman, Tania Fliter, Amber Farr, Laura Johnson Third Row: Angela Mattozzi, Jennifer Spiegel, Fran Costello, Jennifer Ranta, Mirjana Vlahovic, Marissa Garibay, Laura Worley, Sarah Bacan, Susan Garibay, Lindsay Chapa Fourth Row: Nancy Robles, Angela Stout, Jennifer Surret, Jamie Foy, Suzanne Wargo, Angela Krsak, Terrence Grasha, Beth Connell, Megan Harveth Fifth Row: Jill Havlin, Christina Govert, Karen Jensen, Gina Menchaca, Rebecca Amos, Madelyn Moore, Lisa Skura, Jacqueline Deyoung



Photo by Amy Hinton

Spring food for Student Council's food drive, sophomore Carrie Giltmier counts how much food each class brought in. The class that donated the most food won a pizza party.

Booster Club members spent hours at school decorating for the Regional football game against Hobart. The members formed a walkway at the building entrance with balloons and streamers.



Photo by Amy Hinton



Front Row: Allison Goeman, Sarah Kugel, Nikki Haluska, Candace Rossner, Blair Bernath, Jennifer Surreit, Angela Mattozzi, Jennifer Spiegel, Natalie Huber, Susan Gribble, **Second Row:** Kristen Dros, Jessica Everhart, Tennille Grasha, Rachel Nichols, Nicole Voges, Karl Grimmer, Angela Krsak, Katrina Chapa, Arianna Hecht, Megan Mimnaugh **Third Row:** Jaci Bolsega, Brianne Wilsbach, Julie Scheeringa, Victoria Anderson, Susan Huss, Christina Jewett, Tammy Baker, Melissa Ryan, Stefanie Gould, Carrie Labuda **Fourth Row:** Trisha Fleishman, Angela Stout, Laura Zagrocki, Jill Havlin, Amanda Kasper, Jennifer Vazonis, Joan Doppler, Stacy Buckner, Tania Fliter, Mandi Messinio, Nicole Hart **Fifth Row:** Nikolina Dimovski, Laura Huber, Rebecca Arnos, Michelle Adame, Fay Netos, Christina Barriga, Cassandra Paul, Jill Palmer, Gina Menchaca, Elizabeth Wilson, Lindsay Zimmerman



Front Row: Jessie Vaca, Ruth Kie, Kristina Hageman, Bonnie Hallsted, Leeann Henricks **Second Row:** Cynthia Delauro, Dennis Swender, Fay Netos, John Bare, Manda Spencer, Jessica Santos, Kristen Collins **Third Row:** Michelle Popovich, CariAnne Zimmerman, Jennifer Huesken, Jeffrey DeBoer, David Moore, John Mehok, Jennifer Laffoon **Fourth Row:** Vanessa Cutka, Elisabeth Helfen, Gabriel Mauch, Jeffrey Nowlin, Christine Gulota, Carol Fiest, Carrie Labuda



And now our own Griffith Pantherettes." These words spoken by Ed Hanko, announcer, before a home game performance are very comforting to the Pantherettes. But being away from home on a strange gym floor can be a little scary when the Pantherettes are competing for a state title.

Performing at a competition is a whole different atmosphere than performing at home games.

"Home games are fun because they are fun and less stressful," explained senior

EXCITEMENT outweighs nerves

Susan Garibay, "but competition is very exciting."

Competition has its good and bad sides.

"The best part is being in front of the crowd and knowing they're all cheering for you," said junior **Angela Krsak**. "The worst is waiting to see who wins."

But when you are out there doing your best the pros definitely outweigh the cons.

"The second it's done, and you know you couldn't have done any better is the best feeling," said sophomore **Lisa Skura**.

-Allison Gierman

Competing, seniors Susan Garibay, Nikki Haluska, Candice Rossner, Angela Mattozzi, and sophomore Madelyn Moore perform their routine. The Pantherettes placed fourth at state competition.



Front Row:Nikki Haluska, Candice Rossner, Susan Garibay, Allison Gierman Second Row:Angela Mattozzi, Jennifer Redar, Stacy Buckner, Angela Krsak, Sarah Kasper Third Row:Madelyn Moore, Nicole Yakes, Julie Hof, Beth Connel Fourth Row:Lisa Skura, Mirjana Vlahovic, Christina Gover



Front Row:Amanda Hall, Michael Cullum, Nikolina Dimovski, Deanna Mocha, Darryl Carstensen Second Row:Anthony Papa, Kenneth Darrin, Stephanie Martin, Brian Dalka, Tom Zeller, Amy Theodoras Third Row:Ryan Gore, Kristina Roth, Stacie Kapciak, Amber Hecht, Marie Ritchey, Jennifer Theodoras, Amber Piekarczyk, Laura Huber Fourth Row:Daniel Mills, Mario Ruff, John Mehok, Bill Barriga, Brian Betts, Russell Miller, James Baggary



photography: Kelli Anderson

Loading up for the long ride home, junior Andrea Reed and senior Melissa White fill their backpacks with food from the cafeteria at Franklin College. The Reflector staff participated in onsite competitions where White won an honorable mention.

Waiting for a strike, senior Bennie Powell watches his ball roll down the lane. Bowling club members met at Plaza Lanes every Tuesday after school where each member bowled three games with his or her team of three.

photography: Brent Davis



Front Row: Thom Howell, Kim Sponaugle, Lea Baccino, Traci Duncan Second Row: Tracy Govert, Michael Zolcak, Jennifer Surratt, Jennifer Spigler, Brandi Curuso, Candice Rossner, Nathan Liechty, Nikki Liliuska Third Row: Tanya Gillispie, Melissa Huber, Sara Raduski, Tenesha Jackson, Michelle Mele, Tonya Hart, Amanda Vanek, Courtney Johnson Fourth Row: Jennifer Theodozio, Bennie Powell, Barry Walker, Robert Segally, Eddie Covarrubias, Spring Crawford



Front Row: Jeffery Bice, Jaci Boilega, Michelle Paul, Angel Valez, Julie Jachimczak Second Row: Lydia Whitehead, Shaun Doyle, Christina Prodenko, Jerome Williams Third Row: Pamela Sims, Michelle Curtis, Laura Morgan, Todd Landis, Amanda Nichols



Photo: Bob Gans, Mary Beyer

A day at the museum and lunch at McDonald's are both ways that people spend their weekends, but they are also examples of how Spanish Club members spent a school day this year.

On November twenty third, members went to a small museum in Chicago called The Mexican Museum of Fine Arts in order to see their display of Ofrendas.

"Ofrendas are tributes to the dead," said Spanish Club co-sponsor Katherine Martinez. "We

CULTURAL experiences

went on a guided tour to learn about The Day of the Dead."

After learning of an ancient tradition, they experienced a modern one: lunch at McDonald's.

"We went to McDonald's in a Spanish neighborhood," said senior Anna LaFayette. "They had the menus in both Spanish and English. Some of us ordered in Spanish."

Although an afternoon spent at school learning how to conjugate verbs and reading about Spanish culture is necessary to learning the language, sometimes an afternoon spent actually experiencing the language and culture can be more beneficial. -Allison Gierman

Enjoying her dessert, sophomore Christina Lopez eats with other Spanish club members at Fiesta Mexico. After seeing Don Quixote, the members stopped to enjoy a Mexican meal.



Front Row: Crystal Wilcox, Nikolina Dimovski, Jessica Thompson, Jennifer Lallof, Carrie Labuda, Kelly Mann, Jaci Bolsaga, Julie Jachimczak **Second Row:** Jennifer Sims, Laura Johnson, Rachel Thomas, Jeffrey Bice, Michael Curtis, Brent Bol, Jacob Laird, Todd Kapciak, Paul, Kate Hingebach, Tim Adams, Justin McDonald, Angel Velez, Cassandra Williams, Ryan Forbes, Brandon Fane, Brandon Fane, Nicole Kapciak, Amber Hecht **Third Row:** Pamela Sims, Christina Federenko, Amanda Nichols, Melissa Sims, Christian Laird, Amanda Paul, Lydia Whitehead, Brian Farenkopf, Justin Seat **Fifth Row:** Dale Rudzinski, Jessie Vaca, Jennifer Linders, Michael Curtis, Brent Bol, Jacob Laird, Todd Kapciak, Charlene Sims, Kyle Domazet, Shelly Hively **Sixth Row:** Justin McDonald, Brian Betts, Christopher Tzitz, Matthew Lewis, Jeffrey Bingham, William Barriga, Brandon Fane, John Mehok, Robert Miller



Front Row: Todd Kapciak, Angel Velez, Jeffrey Bingham, Julie Jachimczak, Jeffrey Bice, Lydia Whitehead **Second Row:** Shaun Doyle, Laura Huber, Amber Hecht, Christina Federenko, Rachel Thomas, Kate Hingebach, Tim Adams, Justin McDonald, Angel Velez, Cassandra Williams, Ryan Forbes, Brandon Fane, Brandon Fane, Nicole Kapciak, Amber Hecht **Third Row:** Pamela Sims, Christina Federenko, Amanda Nichols, Melissa Sims, Christian Laird, Amanda Paul, Lydia Whitehead, Brian Farenkopf, Justin Seat **Fifth Row:** Dale Rudzinski, Jessie Vaca, Jennifer Linders, Michael Curtis, Brent Bol, Jacob Laird, Todd Kapciak, Charlene Sims, Kyle Domazet, Shelly Hively **Sixth Row:** Justin McDonald, Brian Betts, Christopher Tzitz, Matthew Lewis, Jeffrey Bingham, William Barriga, Brandon Fane, John Mehok, Robert Miller



Loading up the van, junior Amy Worth, senior Anna LaFayette, and junior Sarah Fech prepare for the hour drive from Kankakee Valley, All-State Choir members practiced with the top singers from all over the area.

photo by Fay Norton

Grabbing some chips, senior Christina Jewett stops to eat in her hotel room in Franklin, Indiana. Quill & Scroll members attended a journalism convention at Franklin College.



Front Row: Katherine Martinez, Karen Jensen, Melissa Steapleton, Gina Menchaca, Anna LaFayette, Nina Federenko, Jill Palmer, Amanda Marcus, Kathryn LaFayette, Irma Coddington **Second Row:** Michelle Paul, Lara Gonzalez, Christina Gwert, Michelle Pardo, Amanda Greevich, Shana Duffall, Susan Russ, Bonnie Brady, Marissa Villaseñor, Michelle Adams **Third Row:** Anna McFadden, June Scherzinger, Heather Rivera, Daniel Gomez, Timothy Turkowski, Cassandra Paul, Christina Lopez, Jessica Santos, Adriana Aguilar, John Hanson **Fourth Row:** Shelby Hively, Jonathan Huff, Mira Damjanovic, Beth Cornell, Jessica Everhart, Lisa Skura, Andjela Subotic, Kristin Duncan, Katina Chapa, Carey Baccto, Samantha Adams **Fifth Row:** Jaci Bolega, Bobby Lassiter, John Mehok, Colin Banta, Patrick Fuentes, Eddie Covarrubias, Erich Neiswinger, Jonathan Soverly, Arianna Hecht, Kandis Knight



Front Row: Chris Tomsci, Jason Carroll, Daniel Falda, Tania Fliter, Lydia Whitehead, Vanessa Cutka, Anthony Papa, Carolyn Brown **Second Row:** Jamaal Bell, Cara Massa, Amanda Jennings, Christina Jewett, Bill Hawling, Steven Jennings, Gina Menchaca, Steven McGuire, Rebecca Amos **Third Row:** Jay Kolos, Patrick Riordan, CarAnne Zimmerman, Kristopher Anderson, Scott Gierman, Amy Harnew, Allison Gierman **Fourth Row:** Meagan Clarke, Bonnie Hallsted, Nicole Voges, Angela Stout, Thomas Morosin, Bryan Duney, Melissa White



Front Row: Lydia Whitehead, Nikolina Dumovski, Michelle Paul, Crystal Wilcox, Julie Jachimczak **Second Row:** Justin Seat, Jerome Williams, Jessica Thompson, Adam McEwen, Jennifer Sims, Robert Miller **Third Row:** Chadman Laird, Brent Bol, Bill Barriga, Matthew Lewis, Christopher Tzitz



Front Row: Amanda Smigla, Sarah Kagel, Christine Gulota, Sarah Fech **Second Row:** Melissa Steapleton, Lindsay Zimmerman, Colleen Strachan, Tara Moss, Rebecca Amos **Third Row:** Sarah Johnson, Amy Worth, Kelle Zeman, Jill Palmer **Fourth Row:** Jenny Dalach, Amanda Vanek, Darla Domstic, Rachael Nichols, Michelle Mele



Front Row: Beth Wilson, Michelle Paul, Jessica Thompson, Abby Forbes, Julie Jachimczak **Second Row:** Amanda Paul, Dale Rudzinski, Shaun Doyle, Jaci Boleaga, Kyle Plesniak, Crystal Wilcox **Third Row:** Tim Adams, Patricia Smith, Jeffrey Bingham, Charlene Sims, Christopher Tzitz, Amanda Nichols, Bill Barriga



Front Row: John Shores, Brandon Bruce, Joshua Teague, Jason Alexander, Greg Bordon **Second Row:** Kevin Cap, Keith Henman, Everett Mull, Adam Stone, Michael Paul, Justin Whiting **Third Row:** Manuel Longoria, Joseph Williams, Jerome Williams, Michael Sims, Jason Tomasi **Fourth Row:** Dennis Smith, Eric Kline, Joseph Borkowski, Tim Adams, Matthew Rusch, Bobby Lassiter **Fifth Row:** David Moore, Imaru Jones, Ibrahim Brewer, Brandon Smeiko, Gerard Mesman





Photo by Tim Sisk

Singing "The Star Spangled Banner," Chorale members perform at the boys basketball Senior Night as basketball coach Tom Wells' 3-year-old son, Austin "A.J." holds the flag. Chorale also performed at the girls basketball Regionals.

And first place goes to... These words can precede disappointment or excitement. At the ISSMA contest, many GHS music makers were excited after hearing their names come after these words.

After hours of practice, students felt confident going into the competition. Sophomore band member **Pamela Sims** received a first place in her percussion ensemble.

"We practiced alot," said Sims. "So I thought we'd do well."

For others winning was a pleasant surprise.

As a first year choir member, junior **Joseph Warrick** didn't know what to expect going into the contest.

"I felt great when I won first place," said Warrick. "I never even knew I was good or even had a chance, and to win first place is one of the best feelings."

There was much more excitement than disappointment for GHS band and choir members as they earned 46 first place awards and 15 qualified for state with either solos or ensembles.

-Allison Gierman

WINNING with music

Photo by Tim Sisk



Singing "Eye of the Tiger," junior **Nikolina Dimovski** and freshman **Ryan Horn** march at the RCA Dome. Band members and Pantherettes performed at halftime of the State Championship football game.

Drumming under the lights, senior **Todd Kapciak** performs during halftime of a home football game. Kapciak played in marching band, concert band and percussion ensemble.



photo by Tim Sisk

Getting ready to pump up the school, seniors **Jeffery Bice** and **Jeffrey Bingham** prepare to play at the Homecoming pep rally. Both Bingham and Bice played the bass drum for marching band.



Front Row: Kuss Radtke, Tania Fliter, Michelle Adams, Candice Rossner, Julie Krummel, Emily Sydnor, Laci Johnson, Barbara Deleget. **Second Row:** Alison Gierman, Megan Stout, Blair Bernath, Christina Jewett, Michelle Blessing, Susan Garibay, Nikki Haluska, Melissa Furr, Kristi Whithead. **Third Row:** Fran Costello, Brian Sowinski, Jeffrey Ullberg, Michael Kelley, Chris Tomcsi, Jennifer Surret, Salvador Aguilar



Front Row: Amanda Marcus, Laura Zagrocki, Jennifer Vaznonis, Amanda Kasper, Tina Duncan, Sarah Hagel. **Second Row:** Melissa Steinington, Carrie Hladik, Amber Decht, Nicole Voges, Jill Talabay, Jennifer Ranta, Rebecca Amos, Joan Doppler. **Third Row:** Terri Miller, Lashai, Angela Kosak, Sara Grudzien, Suzanne Wargo, Rachael Nichols, Jenny Dalach



Front Row: Sarah Bacan, Melissa Petersen, Lindsay Beigle, Nancy Robles, Diana Balth, Laura Melton. **Second Row:** Cassandra Wundt, Anna Medsker, Maria Gonzalez, Amanda Greevich, Christina Givert, Jaci Bolsega, Colleen Vechey. **Third Row:** Susan Buss, Jason Tomcsi, Laura Worley, Amber Furr, Kristi Whithead, Josie Everhart, David Colby, Victoria Anderson



Photo: David Jones

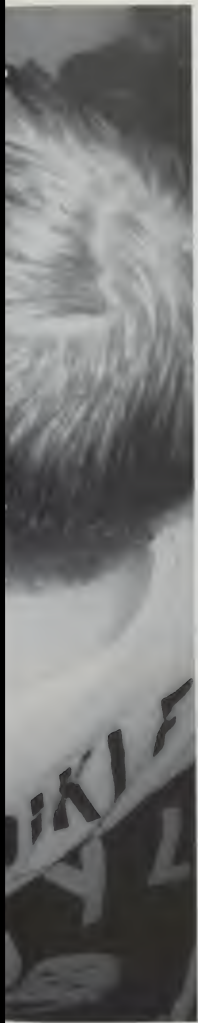


Photo by Tim Kasper

Setting up for activities night, sophomores Jason Tomcsi and David Colby carry the equipment needed for the games onto the field. Activities night was planned by Student Council.

Taking field trips, having parties, and going to banquets or fiestas all sound like fun, and for a lot of students they can be. However, all of these activities take careful planning and organizing to be as successful as possible. For some students, these activities can take much work before the benefits can be enjoyed.

"Trying to decide on who can be in charge and getting everything done by a certain date is the hardest part of getting things ready in Spanish club," said sophomore Jessica Santos, "but even though planning everything can be difficult it is definitely worth it in the end."

There can be an upside to planning activities: when the work is finished and all that's left to do is enjoy the event. Planning an event such as Prom can take months of deciding in order to make the evening memorable for everyone. Junior class council member Sara Grudzien agreed that Prom took a lot of planning.

"We had a lot of great ideas, so we had a hard time deciding our [Prom] theme," Grudzien said, "but it was a big event and I wanted to be a part of it to make it enjoyable for everyone."

-Nicole Voges

WORKING for rewards

Photo by Tim Kasper



Taking notes, junior Shaun Doyle assigns jobs to Honor Society members for the blood drive. Doyle served as co-chairman of the blood drive committee along with junior Karl Grimm.

Planning the pictures for the Panther Press, seniors Tania Fliter and Bryan Doney use the light board to view the negatives of the sports pictures. Fliter served as sports editor with Doney as photo editor.



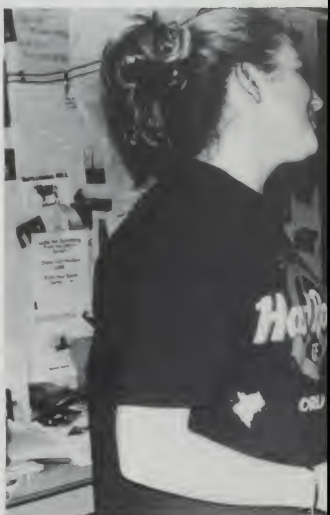
Photo by Tim Kasper

Seeing what looks good, juniors Amanda Marcus, Melissa Shepleton, Laura Zagrocki, Joan Doppler, Amanda Kasper, Nicole Voges, and Angela Krsak look through Prom magazines. The girls decided the colors, songs, and theme for Prom.



photo by Eric Meier

Grabbing a snack during DECA's annual lap dance, senior Nathan Liechty hands junior Monique Jones a sandwich. Liechty served as DECA's president this year.



Getting involved in school activities is one thing, but could you handle being in charge of any of these activities? There are only a few leadership positions in most clubs, but the ones that are leaders can be very involved, sometimes in many different groups and clubs. Senior Mandi Messinio, who is Booster Club president, knows what it's like to be a leader, and she likes the fact that she gets to be in charge of others.

LEADING the way

"I like being able to take control of things, and it makes me feel more responsible to know I'm the leader of something," said Messinio.

Another aspect of being a leader includes having the ability to take charge, even if it means doing things that might not be fun. As leaders, students have to learn to deal with making the right choices and not always the popular ones.

"I sometimes feel that I'm being kind of bossy," said junior Laura Zagrocki, who is both the junior class council president and honor society treasurer. "But I hope that everyone knows it's for a good reason."

Despite the fact that being a leader can cause stress and may be hard at times, most student leaders agree that in the long run it can help them prepare for the future and future leadership positions.

"Being a leader is important because it helps you get ready for the adult world," said junior Karl Grimmer. "The more experience you have, the easier the transition will be."

-Nicole Voges



Front Row: Jorie Flores, Matthew Schroeder, Jason O'Donnell, Angela Mattozzi **Second Row:** Blair Bernath, Ian Flores, Bonnie Hallsted, Bryan Duncy, Joseph Tomcisi, Patricia Ortiz, Chris Tomcisi, Megan Hargett, Thomas Moore, Vanessa Cutka **Third Row:** Anna LaFayette, Karl Grimmer, Brenda Moore, Jeffrey DeBoer, CariAnne Zimmerman, Thomas Morosin, Karrie Green, Patrick Fuentes, Christina Hageman, Eddie Covarrubias, Julia Demske



Front Row: Traci Duncan, Tania Fliter, Michael Kelley, Daniel Falda, Amanda Marcus, Carrie Giltmier **Second Row:** Joan Doppler, Christina Bernath, Jodie Ross, Sherry Zorn, Jodie Ross, Jennifer Ranta, Yana Miro, Jodie Ross, Jodie Ross, Jodie Ross **Third Row:** Melissa Petersen, Michelle Blessing, Salvador Aguilar, Jason Tomcisi, Christina Jewett, Lauren Davis, Sarah Bacan, Amanda Kasper, Jeffrey Vessell, Melissa Streapleton **Fourth Row:** Lora Melton, Nancy Robles, Jeffrey Eaton, Eric Salczynski, Ryan Melton, Julia Demske, Bryan Duncy, Karl Grimmer, Steven McGuire, Jamie Foy, Carrie Hanchar, Diana Ballas **Fifth Row:** Christina Govert, Laura Worley, Lisa Skura, Vanessa Hooper, Patrick Fuentes, Jenny Dalach, Jeffrey DeBoer, Rachael Nichols, Beth Connell, Jessica Everhart, Mira Damjanovic, Amber Farr, Lindsay Beigle

During the hints, senior Lydia Whitehead asks senior Steven McGuire where her present is hidden. The two were sleeping over at the school for the annual Quill and Scroll Lock-In. Whitehead served as president of Quill and Scroll as well as editor-in-chief of Reflector.

Photo by Ray Noto



During a skit, seniors Christina Hageman and Jessie Vaca perform for the rest of the Remnant members. Vaca served as the president of Remnant, which sold carnations for Valentine's Day.



Front Row: Cristen Mattozzi, Michelle Popovich, Abigail Greco, Stephanie Belgie, Ashley Wilson, Craig Seat, Anthony Potesta, Mark Overd, Brad Swanson, Jason Schultz, Jennifer Darnell
Second Row: Michael Critchland, Powers, Julie Hargrove, Kristina Toth, Sara Palmer, Crystal Nelson, Michael Nellenman, Jeremy Brzycki, Justin Grimmer, Michael Tomaszewski, Kyle Massa, Elliott Miller
Third Row: Veronica Solis, Brandi Harveth, Sarah Fry, Breanne Stasill, Nicholas Ray, Marie Ritchey, Deborah Race, Phillip Cadle, Lance White, Steven Schulz, Brett Bierman, David Haldi, Jeff Doppler



Front Row: Jocel Nieto, Kathryn Mochon, Madeilyn Moore, Mary Belcher, Kathryn LaFayette, Amie Kielbasa, Katisha Shores
Second Row: Anna Haldi, Emma Schumacher, Heather Cope, Christina Gowan, Lauren Davis, Shannon Swain, Trica Santana, Pamela Campbell
Third Row: Mirjana Vlahovic, Michelle Nichols, Stephanie Martin, Margaret Kurzumska, Laura Worley, Julie Newman, Carrie Giltmer
Fourth Row: Andjela Subotic, Mary Zubrenic, Beth Connell, Jackie DeYoung, Jennifer Huesken, Michelle Bennett, Jessica Santos



First Row: Gregory Bowers, Janis Walenkiewicz, Justin Grimmer
Second Row: Paul Ulrich, John Jensen, Scott Negrete, Selena Saldana, Lawrence Hawthorne



Front Row: Sarah Kugel, Bonnie Hallsted, Sarah Fech, Ian Flores
Second Row: Amy Worth, Yvonne Layette, John DeBauer, Eddie Covarrubias, Matt Nichols



Front Row: Arianna Hecht, Victoria Anderson, Marisa Garibay, Jessica Everhart, Jason O'Donnell
Second Row: Matthew York, Melisa Smilowski, Brian Rodriguez, Travis Banning
Third Row: Mike Cservenak, Adam O'Brien, Eric Schulz, Eddie Covarrubias, Matthew Michels



Front Row: Sarah Fech, Margaret Kurzynski
Second Row: Patricia Burt, Amy Dornew, Emily Wroosz, Jennifer Huesken



photo by: Dennis Swensder



Photo by Dan Brown

Opening her present, junior **Andrea Reed** opens her gift from her Secret Santa. At the Quill & Scroll lock-in, members sat in a circle and took turns opening their presents from their Secret Santas.

Hanging out with friends, expressing creativity, and just goofing around are all things most students like to do on their own. However, some students found a club that allowed them to do these things in an organized manner.

A normal Writer's Block meeting consisted of students sharing their own personal poems or stories. One afternoon Writer's Block members decided to clear out the desks in Theresa Swetkey's English room and spread blankets across the floor. After getting comfortable the group watched foreign films.

"I had fun watching the foreign films, but I joined Writer's Block because I enjoy writing and sharing my work with other people," said junior **Margaret Kurzynska**.

While the Writer's Block members were meeting, Art Club members were down the hall expressing themselves by making creative works and new friends.

"The best about Art Club is being able to spend time with my friends and make cool artwork and express my creativity," said junior **Ian Wolkun**.

No matter how they expressed themselves, students found a way to let out their creative energy and have fun by taking part in a club activity. -**Allison Gierman**

photo by Dan Brown



Celebrating Cinco de Mayo, sophomore **Samantha Adame** and **Irina Coddington**, Spanish, dance in the courtyard. Adame was in Coddington's second year Spanish class as well as Spanish Club.

Waiting a train, seniors **Vanessa Cutka**, **Lydia Whitehead** and **Melissa White**, juniors **Anthony Papa** and **Nicole Voges**, and senior **Steven McGuire** massage each other. This was one way the Reflector staff relieved stress.

HAVING a blast



photo by Jeff Netos

Taking a break, seniors **Jennifer Surret**, **Jennifer Spiegel**, and **Michael Zolcak** rest in the field house after the DECA walk-a-thon. DECA raised over \$2,000 by walking around the field house for over two hours.



YOU

...an athlete

An athlete is someone who never quits no matter what. They know what has to be done and they do it without whining, complaining, or making excuses."

—junior Joseph Lavolette

"An athlete is someone who has a goal and who dedicates themselves to a sport by always trying to get one step further every day."

—freshman Selena Saldana

"An athlete is someone who through victory or defeat, pain or pleasure, never loses sight of their goals."

—senior Joseph Bonnemai

"It's someone who stays positive through the tough times and always tries their hardest and best no matter how far they may be from their goals."

—sophomore Andjela Subotic

the *determined*
proud definition *honor*
of an *dedicated*
hardworking athlete *loyal*

athlete n. *A person possessing the natural aptitudes for physical exercises and sports, as strength, agility, and endurance.* The athletes at Griffith proved they possessed the natural aptitudes for sports when the football team came home from Indianapolis as Class 4A State Champions. The boys' tennis first doubles' team aced past sectionals and regionals and made it all the way to semi-state. The girls' basketball team became sectional champions for the first time in the team's history. The boys' swim team had one teammate advance to state finals. The golf team qualified for regionals for the first time and the boys' track team had two team members make it to state competition. All these and the many other athletes in all the fall, winter, and spring sports showed their strength, agility, and endurance, and fulfilled the definition of an athlete.



Senior Karrie Green cuts herself a piece

PORTIN' A NEW CUT of bas-
ketball

net after the girls' basketball sectional championship over Gavitt. The sectional title was the first the girls' team had ever had. "I was proud that we came together as a team and all the hard work and practice paid off," said Green. "We worked all spring, summer and fall. I think more girls showed up [for practice] and they were more determined and showed a lot of heart."

Photo by Tim Smith



Front Row: Eric Salczynski, Kyle Konopasek, Christopher Kronland, Christopher Brookhart, Jason Tomcsi
Back Row: Matthew Schroeder, Jeremy Bratton, David Schaffenberger, Joshua Banning, David Haldi, Bernie Zemen (coach)



dictionary of terms

number—"We had to wear these at all of our meets. They're for the judges so they can identify you rather than having to know all the runners' names. They use them for placement and disqualifications."

-Eric Salczynski, sophomore

Beiriger Route—"We'd start running from the teacher's parking lot and take a left, running down that street and then moving along the soccer field at Beiriger. We'd then pass Beiriger and swing back around towards the school, eventually making a big square."

-Matthew Schroeder, junior



photos by Eric Niles

Waiting for the girls to finish running, sophomores Eric Salczynski and Kyle Konopasek play with a hacky sack in order to unwind before they run.

Running a race, sophomore Christopher Brookhart overtakes a runner from Gavitt during the Sectionals meet. Griffith finished in sixth place at Sectionals.



photos by Eric Niles

Gavitt Invite
5th Place

Highland
35-19

Morton
23-37

New Prairie Invite
13th Place

Gavitt
35-19

Munster
34-20

Bishop Noll
30-18



Collapsing after a race, junior Matthew Schroeder takes a breather during the Lake 10 Conference meet. The boys finished in fifth place at Conference.

photo by Fax Netos

Taking down some times, cross country coach Bernie Zemen records the results of a race. Zemen had to keep track of the boys' times himself since there were no managers for cross country.

photo by Fax Netos



Without a single senior on the team, the fairly young and inexperienced boys' cross country runners had to look to the returning members for leadership.

"We had a lot of guys who were running for the first time," said freshman Christopher Kronland. "We quickly improved as the season progressed."

Along with the new runners improving so quickly, the boys had to work to overcome the loss of their best runner.

"We had a lot of new guys that had never ran before and we had graduated our top runner (Steve Lehmann)," said sophomore Jason Tomcsi. "We had a very young team."

Without seniors to guide the team, many of the runners felt that the season was an exercise in leadership and that they would be better prepared to direct the teams of the future.

-Josh Martin

*in with
the
new*

In your words...

David Schäffenberger junior



"Cross country was a break from the usual routine. It gave me a new horizon to cross."

Jeremy Bratton junior

"The meets were exciting because you were competing against a lot of people all at once."



David Holdri freshman



"It was cool to be able to get to know the coach and the guys better as the season went on."

Hammond 27-28	Hobart Insite 6th place	Whiting 30-49	Clark 27-38	Calumet 15-50	Clark Insite 5th place	Conference 5th place	Sectionals 6th place
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First Row: Fran Costello, Jill Tsirtis, Jennifer Spiegel, Laura Zagrocki Second Row: Sara Saltanovitz, Mary Belcher, Jennifer Surret, Samantha Adame, Deborah Race, Sarah Govert, Amanda Paul, Cassandra Paul, Jocelyn Williams, Hannah Zemke, Carrie Hanchar, Carrie Giltmier, Coach Bernie Zemen

In your words...

Sa ~~Samantha~~ Adame
sophomore



"The best part about running is the fact that it is you, as yourself running. You decide how good you'll do."

Ca ~~Carrie~~ Giltmier
sophomore

"My favorite part of cross country is the natural high that you get after a race."



crossing the line

way more fun," said junior Carrie Hanchar.

-Allison Gierman

Catching her breath, sophomore Amanda Paul cools down after running in the Highland Invitational. Paul was a first-time cross-country team member.

Running a race, freshman Sara Saltanovitz paces herself before sprinting the final stretch. "The practices were hard," she said. "But they paid off in the end."



photo by Tom Page



photo by Fox News

Mud is flying everywhere, and girls are diving over the finish line. This isn't the picture most people have in their heads of a cross country meet, but this is what those who attended the Clark Invitational saw.

The meet was just one of the ways the Girls' Cross Country team banded together to turn running, which was usually thought of as a very individual sport, into a team event.

"Bernie (coach) is really cool this year," said senior Fran Costello. "I really loved my teammates, they were awesome. Everyone got along so well."

A light hearted attitude replaced the usual seriousness of running. This contributed to the sense of unity felt by all members.

"The people on the team this year took the sport less seriously, but still tried hard and made the season



Stretching, seniors Fran Costello and Jennifer Spiegel prepare to run at Dowling Park. Costello and Spiegel kept in shape in the off season by running after school.

Hugging her little sister Elisabeth, junior Cassandra Paul amuses her before a meet Elisabeth attended the Conference meet in order to cheer on her sister.

photo by Tom Neph



photo by Tom Neph

Going for the win, junior Laura Zagrocki tries to overtake a Highland runner at the Highland Invitational. Teams from around the area participated in this invitational.

photo by Tom Neph



dictionary of terms

the chute—"The flags where you go into at the end of the race, the finish line." -Jennifer Surreit, senior

splits—"Your times at certain distances. For example, three minutes after one mile or seven minutes after two." -Laura Zagrocki, junior

singlet—"Your running top."
-Jennifer Surreit, senior

Highland
40-15

Morton
21-36

Clark
25-39

Clark Invitational
5th place

Lake 10 Conference
2nd place

Hammond Sectional
3rd place



First Row: Fran Costello, Ian Flores (mgr.), Emily Coddington
Second Row: Danielle Garnett, Jorie Flores, Shannon Brandon, Sara Bacan, Susan Huss, Jennifer Ranta
Back Row: Michelle Castillo (coach), Suzanne Pikus, Sara Grudzien, Jessica Everhart, Todd Iwema (asst. coach)



Front Row: Ian Flores (mgr.)
Second Row: Lindsay Biegle, Anne Medsker, Michelle Cuneo, Shannon Swope, Lindsay Chapa, Nicole Popovich
Third Row: Michelle Castillo (coach), Susan Huss, Erica Garnett, Pamela Sims, Kelley Loudenber, Andrea Melendez, Todd Iwema (asst. coach)

dictionary of terms

spike—"When you go up to the net and hit the ball overhand as hard as you can so the other team can't get it back up." -Susan Huss, sophomore

kill—"When the ball goes down without anybody on the other team touching it. This is the best kind of hit." -Jessica Everhart, sophomore



During a game against E.C. Central, sophomore Emily Coddington subs in for sophomore Jessica Everhart. "With so few people on our team, we had to learn how to play together and once we did, we started looking a lot better," she said.

Receiving a bouquet of balloons, sophomore Lindsay Chapa celebrates her sixteenth birthday with the team. Chapa was the co-MVP for the JV team along with sophomore Susan Huss.



Photos by Tracy Fagan



Warming up for a big game, senior Sarah Grudzien digs for the ball. Grudzien led the team in blocks this season.

Photo by Tom Page



Photo by Tom Page

Setting the ball, sophomore Sarah Bacan leaps into the air. This is Bacan's first year on the varsity team and her second year playing volleyball for GHS.

It's hard to imagine not knowing who your coach will be. It's even harder to imagine not having a coach at all. These are just some of the difficulties the volleyball team was faced with.

One of the biggest problems the team had to deal with was adjusting to new coach **Michelle Castillo**.

"We had no idea who the coach was going to be until a week before our first game," said senior **Shannon Brandon**. "We had to learn to deal with her and doing things her way."

The team also had to tackle a slow start to their season. They lost their first 3 games.

"It took us awhile to get going," said sophomore **Sarah Bacan**. "Once we won our first game, things started to pick up."

Despite their slow start and the multitude of other obstacles they had to overcome, they still finished with a record of 10-20.

learning
to
adjust

-Josh Martin

In your words...

Jorie Flores
senior



"We competed with a lot of teams that we had never played before."

Danielle Garnett
senior

"Once we started playing some games, things started to pick up."



Andrea Melendez
freshman



"I felt it was good experience for me to be able to play with the older girls."

Manster 0-2	Griffith Invite 3rd place	Lake Central 0-2	Gavit 0-2	Calumet 2-0	Hammond High 2-0	Bishop Noll 0-2	Gary West Side 2-0	Clark 0-2	Highland 0-2	Andean Sectionals 0-2
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Varsity

Front Row: Todd Doctor, Shawn Zolcak, David Lopez, Brian Farrenkopf (capt.), Tony Doctor, Derek Blythe, Shane Hudnall
Back Row: Craig Sims, Jeremy Buzza, Christopher Troksa, Brian Sowinski, Matthew Banke, Eric Reed, Adam King (capt.), Dale Rudzinski, Craig Konopasek (capt.), Ryan Towasnicki, Ron Knestrict Sr. (coach)



Junior Varsity

Front Row: Steven Homoky, Matthew Fliter, Mark Forster, Gregory Bowers, Joseph Homoky, Joshua Moon, Nicholas Planer, Jason Lundquist
Back Row: Colin Banta, Justin Sidor, Victor Sendejas, Omar Gonzalez, Kyle Domazet, Timothy Thirion, Elliott Miller, Jared Pierson, Shawn Zolcak, Jared Wojcik, John Jensen, Ron Knestrict Jr. (coach), Chad Lukas (capt.)



Photos by Ray Nelson

Photos by Ray Nelson

dictionary

of terms

nutmeg—"It's when you kick the ball between someone's legs while you're running." -Jared Wojcik, junior

erogenous zone—"This is when three teams scrimmage at one time, and there's a square of cones midfield." -Colin Banta, sophomore

obstruction—"That's when you use your body illegally to block someone from the ball." -Eric Reed, senior

Looking to the crowd for support, junior David Lopez receives a yellow card for wearing jewelry on the field. Lopez had tape over the ring he was wearing, but it came off during a previous play.

Quenching his thirst, senior Craig Konopasek takes a break from the Highland sectional game. Konopasek was a captain this year along with seniors Adam King and Brian Farrenkopf.

Chesterton

Morton

Hobart

Hammond High

Crown Point

Gavit

Andean

Merrillville



Passing the ball to an open teammate, senior Tony Doctor outruns his Portage Wildcat opponent. The team tied the Wildcats at home 3-3.



Photo by Bob Mervis

Taking a breather from the Highland sectional game, senior team King hopes for a victory, but is disappointed by a loss of 2-4. King has played on the varsity team since his sophomore year.

"Hoy doich, bombin' the puse!"

This phrase frequented the halls, but it was also the meaningful chant the guys huddled up to before every game for good luck. This was just one of the many notions of the boys' soccer team.

Another tradition was seeing some of the guys with bleached or colored hair.

"Like Sampson, the Greek god, it gave us strength when we changed our hairstyle," said sophomore Colin Banta.

Overall, the guys felt what really brought them together and kept them going was their friendship both on and off the field.

"The reason I am dedicated is for my teammates," said sophomore Craig Sims. "You just don't want to let them down because not only are they your teammates, they're your friends."

The guys felt this helped them reach their biggest accomplishments of the season: beating Highland and winning conference.

"[Winning conference] was too sweet," said junior Ryan Towasnicki.

After a winning season there's only one thing left to say...

"It's all about the doich," said senior Eric Reed. -Nicole Voges

In your words...

Brian Sowinski
senior



"The highs and lows of the season are what brought us together. We won and lost as a team."

Christopher Troksa
junior



"Winning and knowing we could be the best, that's what kept us unified."

Chad Lukas
junior



"Everyone joked around with each other, that's why we played so good together."

Dale Rudzinski
junior



"When we were out on the field, it's like we were our own little family."

having
a
ball

Highland	Portage	Bishop Noll	Lake Central	Clark	Lowell	Munster	Valparaiso	Highland
3-0	3-3	0-0	1-0	6-0	cancelled	3-1	0-3	0-3



Varsity

First Row: Michelle Adame, Melissa Hart, Laura Worley, Lindsey Vrane Second Row: Jeff Bice (mgr.), Lora Melton, Melissa Gaddini, Caryn Miller, Colleen Vechey, Allison Gatlin, Michelle Gaddini, Anna Lafayette (mgr.) Back Row: Judy Sores (coach), Chris Perez (coach), Melissa Peterson, Trisha Verbich, Tania Fliter, Michelle Blessing, Raul Dominguez (coach), Nancy Robles, Julie Newman, Lisa Carroll, Rick Gonzalez (coach), Vicki Negrete (coach)



Junior Varsity

Front Row: Jeff Bice (mgr.), Arnie Kielbasa, Kara Kmiec, Claire Hudacir, Angela Parent, Tammy Heft, Diana Ballas, Katie Lafayette, Crystal Wilcox, Anna Lafayette (mgr.) Back Row: Judy Sores (coach), Amber Piekarczyk, Chris Perez (coach), Lisa Hartman, Samantha Quintero, Sena Govert, Rick Gonzalez (coach), Juliann Gajewski, Jessica Pavich, Carrie Petroski, Vicki Negrete, Jennifer Sims, Raul Dominguez

dictionary of terms

William and Mary- "It's a new, harder to defend, harder to learn system that was different from what most teams see."

-Tania Fliter, senior

square- "[It's] when a person's right across from you and you pass it to them." -Laura Worley, sophomore

give and go- "You pass it to someone, run ahead of them and they pass it back."

-Julie Newman, sophomore



"The Crushers," a team of 10-year-olds, could be considered the beginnings of much of the girls' soccer team. With only four seniors playing, the sophomores, many of whom had once played together in a youth soccer league, got a chance to reunite and dominate the numbers.

"The whole team was mainly constructed of sophomores," said sophomore **Lindsey Vrane**. "We were split up before in junior varsity and varsity and we finally got to play together again. It seemed like we were little kids again— but all grown up."

After years of playing together, starting with their first team, "The Crushers", the girls had an upper hand that the other teams didn't.

"[Sophomores] have been playing together since we were about ten," said sophomore **Allison Gatlin**, "so we have a lot of experience together."

Although they're "all grown up" now, their game is still about staying positive.

"Winning is good," said Gatlin. "But if you can't— you can't." **Vanessa Cutka**

together at last

Highland 1-3 Chesterton 0-0 Michigan City 5-1 Valparaiso 0-3

Munster 2-1 Merrillville 2-0 Highland 1-3 Kankakee Valley 9-0



Photo by Tom Nelson

Stepping in to steal the ball from her Highland opponent, sophomore Melissa Peterson takes it away in a 3-1 loss. "We had a much better season than the record showed," said Peterson. "We beat a lot of teams that dominated us in the past."

Swerving to get a loose ball, sophomore Allison Gatlin sweeps away the ball as her opponent falls to the ground. Gatlin is continuing a line of soccer players in her family. "My mom and grandma played," said Gatlin. "My grandma still plays but my mom had to quit because of an injury. They still practice with me."



Photo by Tom Nelson



Photo by Tom Nelson

Running up behind her opponent, sophomore Amie Kielbasa sweeps away the ball. Kielbasa won the JV award for Most Valuable Player.

Keeping control of the ball, sophomore Angela Parent stays ahead of her Valparaiso opponent. Parent shared the JV award for best forward with sophomore Diana Ballas.



Photo by Tom Nelson

In your words...

Tania Hiler

senior



"It was hard to just sit there and watch them when [I] knew [I] could be contributing."

Trisha Verhulst

senior

"Hopefully my season isn't over. I have the opportunity to play in college in Europe."



Colleen Dechney

sophomore



"At practice we played 'World Cup Soccer' and Melissa Hart and Julie Newman would yell 'Chile ah huh!'"

Crown Point 1-3

Lake Central 2-4

Hobart 0-0

Munster 3-1

LaPorte 4-0

Bishop Noll 5-0

Portage 2-0

Andrean 1-2

Lake Central sectional 1-6

Drinking in a little relief, junior Jason Angel takes a break. "When Jason came to Griffith, no one was friends with him," said junior Erick Maciszak, "but he had the will and persistence to play football. Josh Greco started chanting 'Rudy' and [Jason] was in the game and made a tackle."

Giving Calumet's defensive back a straight arm, senior Shawn Andriessen takes the ball all the way to go for a touchdown. Andriessen broke a record for 1,000 yards rushing. The team also broke the state record for rushing yardage with 5,543 yards.



dictionary of terms

bone game—“We pick out the toughest team, and when we beat them the seniors get the bone.”
—Christopher Hitt, junior

field dedication—“On the Thursday before a game, we start on the goal line on the visitors' side and run across the field zig-zag like until we reach the other side. When the last person starts, they start the clock and [the runner] had to make it in under four minutes. If they didn't [make it], everyone did it over.”
—Michael Grasch, senior

In your words...

Dan McCoy
defensive coach



“The thing that makes the Wishbone such a great high school offense is that they can't key on one back. All four backs

have an equal carry the ball.”



Front Row: William Torres, Christopher Pike, Shawn Andriessen, Kevin Cap, Kyle Massa **Second Row:** Jason Alexander, Nick (Ulrich, Frank Sanchez, Amanda Marcus (mgr.), Gina Menchaca (mgr.), Julia Scheeringa (mgr.), Scott Reese (asst. coach), Bill Lavolette (asst. coach), Ted White (asst. coach), Dan McCoy (asst. coach), Russ Radtke (head coach), Jim Pickett (asst. coach), Brian Tomson (asst. coach), Seth Krooswyk (asst. coach), Ray Elbar (asst. coach), Melanie Scheeringa (trainer), Brenda Moore (student trainer), Matthew Pollock, Troy Damron, Larry Swentzel **Third Row:** Brandon Walker, Justin Cadle, Jake Medsker, John Vane, Erick Maciszak, Scott Negrete, Justin Newell, Justin Grimmer, Kyle Alexander, Jason Angel, Nicholas Crawford, Timothy Duke, Kyle Krause **Fourth Row:** Eric Parsons, James Maskovich, Johnny Vargo, Todd Schultz, Mike Rivera, Dennis Palucki, James Royal, Joseph Lavolette, Ryan Hill, Tyler Radtke, Robert Malo, Larry Turner, Anthony Washick, Ryan Sarver, Jeffrey Schumacher, Nicholas Spitz, Joshua Todd, Christopher Mulligan, Cory Rakes, Christian Laird, Ryan Stage **Back Row:** Michael Andree Jr., Mark Amos, Joe Schultz, Jason Strayer, Patrick Fuentes, Erik Negrete, Michael Grasch, Ibrahim Brewer, Thomas Grasha, Joseph Bonnema, Steve Laurinas, Luke Pierson, Adam Barks, Kevin Lehmann, Brandon Govett, Clinton Konopasek, Jeffrey Stone, Shane Tinich, Shane Radtke, Steve Holzbach, Kent Elliott

LaPorte
41-6

Hobart
6-21

Highland
46-6

Munster
28-0

Clark
48-0

Lowell
20-13

Calumet
73-7

Whiting
53-19

Gayit
69-7



Keep the ball on the option, senior Shane Radtke runs uphill. "Shane is a great leader to run the 'Wishbone' since he's been running it since he started playing the game," said junior Patrick Fuentes. "No one else has a quarterback that's been running it since he was about 6."

Kneeling after the semi-state game, senior Jeffrey Eaton takes it all in. This win brought Griffith closer to state victory.



Photo by Tony Papp

Going two to one, senior James Maskovich and junior Timothy Duke bring their opponent to the ground. Maskovich and Duke both played defensive backs.



Photo by Tony Papp

Early season defeat by Hobart was exactly what some of the football players needed. A 6-21 loss in September led the team to tighten their focus on the goal. They had only one shot left at overcoming Hobart.

"We decided: 'Hey, let's get our act together,'" said senior Michael Grasm. "We were tired of losing to Hobart so it gave us something to shoot for."

As the season progressed, the crowd grew and so did the hope of ultimate victory: the coveted state championship.

"[After beating Hobart] it wasn't the usual team," said senior Kevin Lehmann. "We weren't just practicing to get it over with. We were trying to get better."

They were "trying to get better" for themselves, but also to prove to everyone that they could do it.

winning it all



Photo by Tony Papp

"When the papers said we weren't going to make it and we were going to lose bad, it just pumped the guys up and made them want it more," said senior student trainer, Brenda Moore.

They knew what they wanted and they had what it took to get it. "We have one of the top offenses in the area," said junior Christopher Hitt, "and a defense of 11 totally crazy guys running around killing people."

Another factor was the people in charge of getting it all together.

"[We had] a great coaching staff," said Grasm, "and a bunch of guys who wanted to get something accomplished." -Vanessa Cutka

Kneeling at the sideline, ballboy Joey Cap listens to junior Michael Andree Jr. "[Joey] looks up to all the football players and really, really wants to be one. He loves Shane Radtke," said junior manager Gina Manchaca.

Munster 21-6

Highland 63-6

Hammond High Sectional 49-7

Hobart Regional 35-21

Fort Wayne Dwyer Semi-State 35-21

Hamilton Southeastern State Championship 49-7

Football 91

Falling into the sideline, senior Jason Strayer nearly scores a touchdown. With a score of 49-7, Griffith broke the record for most points scored in a Class 4A championship.



photo by Tim Nokes

Thinking of the perfect words, senior Thomas Grasha takes part in the autograph session. The team met with fans in the fieldhouse to sign autographs following the Sunday pep rally.

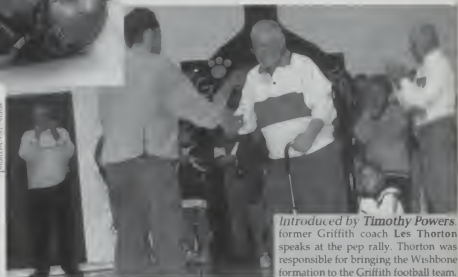


photo by Tim Nokes

Parading down Broad Street, the seniors greet their proud fans. Fire trucks and squad cars sounded the victory for the champions and led the crowd to the pep rally.



photo by Tim Nokes



Introduced by Timothy Powers, former Griffith coach Les Thorton speaks at the pep rally. Thorton was responsible for bringing the Wishbone formation to the Griffith football team.

The intense sounds of the ongoing Andean game crackled over the locker room radio where the Panther football team waited for their chance to take the

field. Griffith fans had long ago filled in the stands with fellow "Regionites", Andean, for the best seats in the Dome. Soon, black and gold would swarm the field.

"Everyone had this tingling in their spines when [we] ran out on the field," said junior **Christopher Hitt**. "It was so loud, it hurt your ears."

What went on during that game was not what was expected. Griffith had been tagged the underdog from the "muck and mire of Lake County" by the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, Griffith's semi-state opponent's hometown newspaper. The 49-7 blow-out quickly discounted this name.

Post-game celebrations brought the town together like never before. The police escort home, the fireworks lighting up the home field, the parade down Broad St., the pep rally, and the autograph session had the players feeling like they were "in the Pros."

"It felt strange," said senior **Kevin Lehmann**. "All of a sudden, people were congratulating you. All of a sudden it was like 'Hey, I'm a Griffith graduate!'"

With a history of record breaking football teams, this team finally reached the ultimate goal: they went all the way.

- Vanessa Cutka



*Dome
at
last*



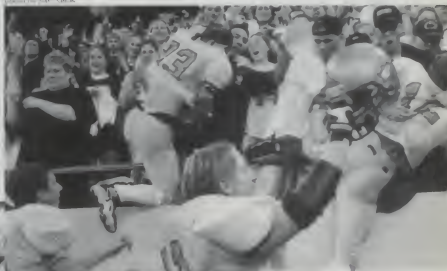
Photo by Steve Rogers

Sizing for his state championship ring, junior Clint Konopasek gets the perfect fit. Coaches, players, managers, trainers, and cheerleaders all received rings.



Photo by Steve Rogers

Making his way down the line, Head Coach Russ Radtke congratulates Justin Newell. Radtke led Griffith to the first ever IHSAA state championship in school history.



Charging the stands, the newfound victors embrace the roaring crowd. Since the crowd was blocked from rushing the field, players jumped the wall and went to them.

Breaking away from the pack, senior Shawn Andriessen takes it away again. With 6,560 yards in the season, Griffith broke the state record for total offense.



Photo by Steve Rogers

dictionary of terms

Reaching for the shot.
sophomore **Matthew Sherry** attempts to hit a volley against his Highland opponent. This was Sherry's second year on the varsity team.

photo by Gina Menchaca

slurpees—"Every practice Tim (coach) would bring us slurpees. It was considered our tennis food."

-Ryan Gettig, senior

munster overhead—"An overhead with perfect form hit in the most perfect place as only kids from the Munster team can do."

-Eddie Covarrubias, junior

sky tennis—"We use all four courts as we hit the ball really high in the sky. We tried to keep it going in the air and let it bounce one time."

-Paul Dalach, freshman



Front Row: John Hanson, Paul Dalach, Ryan Melton, Steve McGuire Second Row: Eric Laczi, Ryan Gettig, Mike Kelley, Eddie Covarrubias, Tim Maluga (Coach)



photo by Gina Menchaca

Hobart
4-1

Clark
4-1

Andrea
3-2

Lake Central
2-3

Bishop Noll
4-1

Morton
3-2

Lake Station Invite
1st place

River Forest
4-1

Munster
1-1



Imagine stepping onto a newly paved tennis court and your opponent is staring you down thinking the match will be an easy win.

That is one of the challenges that the boys' tennis team faced.

"Everyone in the area knew [junior] Eric Laczi, but the rest of the team had to make a name for themselves," said senior Michael Kelley.

With practices after matches and at night, the team worked hard at becoming better players.

"No one thought it would be a big challenge to play us," said Laczi. "We showed them [we could win] and played very competitive."

At times, the team had to prove their skills.

"When I played against Highland, my opponent overlooked me," said sophomore John Hanson, "I showed him and came out on top."

No matter who was on the other side of the net, the team still finished on top with a record of 7-5.

-Meagan Clarke

Perfecting his backhand, senior Ryan Melton goes for the shot. He played number two singles.

Approaching the base line, junior Eric Laczi gets ready to serve for the match. Laczi's record was 18-4 and he led the team at number one singles.



photo by John Macomber

In your words...

Jessica Mishels

junior



"It was exciting to see Mike [Kelley] and Ryan [Gettig] make it all the way to state."

Steve McGuire

senior



"We won as a team and we lost as a team. No matter what happened we rolled with the punches."

acing the competition

Portage 1-4	Calumet 2-3	Merriville Invite 6th place	Highland 2-3	Lake 10 Conference 3rd place	Lowell 3-2	Calumet Sectionals 4-1	Crown Point Sectionals 1-4
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Priming for the pep rally, squad mom Wilma Kasper helps senior Jill Havlin get the perfect look. "You want to look clean-cut and cute," said Havlin. "The crowd looks at you and if you don't look like everyone else, the crowd notices. They judge you by your appearance."



photo by Lay Kasper



Front Row: Angela Stout, Karen Jensen Second Row: Laura Jolusson, Mandi Messinio, Megan Harveth, Jill Havlin Back Row: Tennille Grasha, Joan Doppler, Angela Kozup, Amanda Kasper, Jennifer Vazonnis

dictionary of terms

Leadership Award—It's the squad that shows the most spirit and leadership qualities. [We] got that at camp."

—Megan Harveth, senior

basket toss—It's when two or three people throw Karen [Jensen] or Angle [Kozup] up in the air and she does a toe touch and she comes back down and they catch her, or at least they're supposed to."

—Laura Johnson, senior



photo by Fay Niles

Watching the Pantherettes at half time, seniors Mandi Messinio and Megan Harveth relax a little. The cheerleaders threw over 3,000 plastic footballs into the crowd during the football season.

Holding her stance, junior Joan Doppler pauses as the "Star Spangled Banner" is played. As always, the cheerleaders performed during the pregame show with the Pantherettes and marching band.



photo by Fay Niles



Performing for the Homecoming pep rally, the cheerleaders show off the dance that won them first place at camp. The squad didn't do much dancing, instead, they concentrated on perfecting their stunts.

Photo by Tim Whelan

Rising up, juniors Tennille Grasha, Amanda Kasper, and Jennifer Vaznonis hold Angela Kozup steady. They built themselves up for mounting by getting used to other people and rotating bases.

Photo by Fay Nelson



Honors overseas along with awards on home ground kept the cheerleading squad on the move.

At camp over the summer, the cheerleaders won the Superior Squad Award for having the best overall squad and got a bid to go to the Citrus Bowl. Juniors Joan Doppler, Tennille Grasha, Amanda Kasper, Angela Kozup, and Jennifer Vaznonis decided to go.

"We had to practice a lot early in the morning," said junior Amanda Kasper, "[but] it was exciting."

Although no seniors cheered at the Citrus Bowl, they had the chance to try out for All-Stars. By winning this, seniors Karen Jensen, Laura Johnson, and Angela Stout were rewarded with a trip to London, England.

"Each one of us, when we heard our name, jumped up and started screaming," said senior Angela Stout.

With only 3 percent of the cheerleaders in the United States picked to participate in All-Stars, the girls felt honored.

The three toured while in London and visited Big Ben, Windsor Castle, and Westminster Abbey.

"You hear about castles in storybooks," said Stout, "but when you really see them it's kind of overwhelming. That was my favorite part: the castles and going inside them."

While family and friends were back home enjoying a relaxing Christmas break, the All-Star Cheerleaders spent December 26 through January 2 doing more than sight-seeing.

"We had one practice and then the parade [on New Year's Day]," said Stout. "We had to walk a few miles then do a little dance and sprint to the next spot. We had to do that 15 times." -Vanessa Cutka

on
the
move

In your words...

Mandi Messina
senior



"This overall year has been totally awesome. Since all the sports are doing so good, it makes me feel good to be

cheering for Griffith."

Nancy Stout
co-sponsor

"We just won everything this year. That was really unique. I cannot talk negatively at all."



Karen Jensen
senior



"We've been together for so long...We tried really hard to work together and achieve our goals."

Amanda Kasper
junior

"At night [at the Citrus Bowl], we got to go to the parks, like Disney World and Universal Studios."





Varsity

Front Row: William Laviolette, Enck Maciszak, Adam King, Melvin Ballard, Robert Day Second Row: Tammy Heft, Melissa Hart, David Lopez, Daniel Falda, Rene Reyna, Andrew Kohut, Tina Heft, Ginger Hartman Third Row: Scott Gierman, Greg Potowsky (asst. coach), Scott Murray (asst. coach), Jim Terpstra, Matthew Sherry, Nicholas Jovanovich, Luke Pierson, Brandon Govert, Tom Wells (coach), Richard Kretz (asst. coach)



Junior Varsity

Front Row: Shawn Zolcak, Jeremy Bratton, Matthew Flannery, Michael Reyna, Derek Blythe Second Row: Jared Pierson, Joshua Fisher, Kevin Wlazlo, David Carnahan, Matthew Banke, Matthew Thon, Richard Kretz (coach)



dictionary of terms

putting up bricks—"This is when you shoot and the ball completely misses the rim. Sometimes it misses the backboard too."

-Andrew Kohut, senior

layup—"When a player is close to the rim and he shoots the ball with one hand, jumping off one leg."

-Luke Pierson, junior



Photo by Eric Nelson

Running past his opponent, senior Adam King gets ready to pass the ball. King led the team in assists at 139, more than twice as many as any other team member.

Shooting over the defender, senior Daniel Falda attempts to make a basket. Falda had the highest free throw average on the team, making 89 percent of his shots from the line.



Photo by Eric Nelson



Driving the lane, junior Jim Terpstra prepares to shoot the ball. Terpstra scored 415 points during the season and was voted MVP by his teammates.

photo by Jeff Nieton

Attempting a layup, sophomore Melvin Ballard shoots the ball. Ballard got the most rebounds of any player, averaging seven rebounds per game.

photo by Fay Nieton



After graduating most of their starters, the boys' basketball team had to rebuild their team from the bottom up. This task was accomplished with several new as well as returning players.

"Last year's starting five was mainly seniors," said sophomore Matthew Sherry. "When we lost them, we lost a lot of strength."

Despite the loss of their starters, many players thought that the underclassmen did an excellent job and made great improvements over the course of the season.

"After losing so many seniors, we needed the younger, inexperienced players to fill in for them," said junior Jim Terpstra. "They improved very quickly and did a great job."

With the aid of the new players, the boys finished with a record of 14-6. They advanced to the second round of sectionals and barely missed going to regionals when Horace Mann beat them by two points during overtime. -Josh Martin

covering
new
ground

In your words...

Brandon Gouert
senior



"We worked well as a team and everyone contributed to the games equally."

Adam King
senior

"Calumet beat us early in the season and we had to work hard to beat them in sectionals."



Rene Royprata
senior



"We didn't have much height on our team, so we didn't really have a true center."

David Lopez
junior

"We had a pool tournament at Adam King's house and spent lots of time doing things as a team."





Varsity
 Front Row: Jason Lebata, Joshua Banning, Eric Salecinski, Jason Tomcsi (mgrs.) Second Row: Caryn Miller, Amber Farr, Sarah Bacan, Samantha Quintero, Laura Zagrocki, Emily Coddington Third Row: Greg Potowski (asst. coach), Timothy Powers (coach), Tania Fliter, Erica Head, Karrie Green, Jennifer Surratt, Elaine Parker, Don Josen (asst. coach)



Junior Varsity
 Front Row: Anne Medsker, Erin Ulrich, Andrea Melendez, Lindsay Biegle, Samantha Adame Second Row: Melissa Peterson, Nicole Popovich, Elaine Parker, Nancy Robles, Kristen Oros, Andrea Wartman, Crystal Nelson, Gordon Dilling (coach)



dictionary of terms

rebound—"After you block the ball or it misses the basket, you hope it comes your way so you don't lose control of it."

—Samantha Quintero, sophomore

dunk—"Jumping ten feet into the air with the ball and getting it in the basket." —Nancy Robles, sophomore



Dribbling the ball down the court, sophomore Caryn Miller evades her opponent during the sectional game against Calumet. As a result of their sectional victory and their winning season, the girls opted to name the entire team MVP.

Defending the basket, sophomore Amber Farr attempts to block a shot. "I think it was really cool that we were able to turn things around in a single year," she said.





Attempting a shot, sophomore Emily Coddington gets the ball blocked. Coddington led the team in assists.



Cheering loudly, the girls' basketball team celebrates their victory over Gavitt in the final round of Sectionals. "The whole season we were thinking we were going to win sectionals but when we did, we were overwhelmed," said junior Erica Head.

photos by Eric Noren

photos by Eric Noren

In your words...

Tania Hiter
senior



"I'm not sure if anybody expected us to win Sectionals, but we knew we could do it."

Karrie Green
senior

"It's good to know that everyone was supporting us and that they knew there were sports outside of football."



Carrie Miller
sophomore



"We had more support than in previous years and you could see it by all the people at our games."

post
it
up

-Josh Martin

Reaching for wrist control, junior Jeffrey Vessel thinks of a move to dominate senior Justin Cadle in practice.



photos by Lana Memichara



Front Row: Kenny Bellamy, John Hanson, Patrick Butler, Kyle Alexander, Jason Alexander, Mark Govert **Second Row:** Carrie Rex (mgr.), Shane Tinch, Mario Ruff, Michael Zolcak, Leo Muro, Robert Bradford, Justin Grimmer, Brenda Moore (mgr.) **Third Row:** Aaron Jansen, Todd Doctor, Justin Cadle, Jeffrey Vessel, Mike Rivera, Timothy Duke, Shawn Andriessen, Keith Henman **Back Row:** John Hanson (coach), Russ Radtke (coach), Todd Schultz, Michael Grasch, Joseph Bonnema, Larry Turner, Johnny Vargo, Peter Gniadek, Travis Walls (head coach)

dictionary of terms

chance- "The chance is a move when you have your opponent on his knees. You have your arm under one of his and your other arm around his head and flip him onto his back, trying to pin your opponent."

-Michael Zolcak, senior

toe pressure- "It's when you're on top and you basically just drive with your legs but you're using your toes to flatten them out so you can work another move."

-Timothy Duke, junior

photos by Lana Memichara



Throwing the chance, senior Michael Grasch practices this move. "Because he's the biggest guy on the team, all the guys kind of looked up to him and respected him. They did what he said," said senior, manager Brenda Moore.

Weighing in at practice, senior Peter Gniadek checks for a steady weight. Wrestlers struggled to keep a consistent weight in order to compete in their weight class. Gniadek, with 70 career wins, was team captain and a Semi-State qualifier.

photos by Lana Memichara



Hammond High
60-18, 64-18

Hanover Central
59-12

Valparaiso
18-66

Highland
24-51, 58-22, 31-42

Clark
41-27

Adam Central
9-54

North Newton
42-28

Calumet
9-61, 9-56



Rolling to his stomach after being taken down, sophomore Kyle Alexander tries to regain control. Alexander won Most Valuable Player for junior varsity.

Lifting the Colomet wrestler off his feet, senior Johnny Vargo takes down his opponent. Vargo was a four year varsity letter winner and a Regional qualifier in his last two seasons of wrestling.

photo by Bryan Daney



photo by Bryan Daney

Hheart. That's what it would take to win. "I wrestled with more heart this year because it was my last year," said senior **Peter Gniadek**.

A desire to win can be the factor determining who will come out on top.

"We didn't want [to win] as much as the other teams," said senior **Todd Doctor**. "There were a couple of guys who wanted it, but the team didn't."

Sophomore **Keith Henman** said that although the coaches challenged them, having a young team held them back.

"They pushed us," said Henman, "[but] we didn't do as well as we expected."

Taking their friendships off the mat was important to some of the guys.

"After the meets the team would go out and do stuff together, like bowling, and [going to] tournaments and Hooters," said senior **Justin Cadle**. "That was the best part: the humor of the team. I laughed everyday."

No matter what the guys shared in common, they had unique motivaters for success.

"I wanted to prove to myself that I can succeed," said Cadle.

-Vanessa Cutka

means
of
motivation

In your words...

Justin Cadle
senior



"Wrestling is an experience that won't only help you physically, but will carry out as a lesson in life to strive to reach your goals."

Todd Doctor
senior

"I felt that all the cutting weight and hard practices was worth it to win. It was satisfying."



Matthew Schneider
junior



"When people think of wrestling, they usually think of a bunch of stupid people beating on each other, but really, it involves a lot of thought."

Lowell 28-56, 27-45 Gavitt 30-37 Munster 23-49 Andreon 9-24, 77-6 Fort Wayne Luers 33-39 Kankakee Valley 28-48 Morton 56-16 Bishop Noll 56-18 Whiting 70-6

Wrestling

103

Swimming the breaststroke, freshman Jason Kane comes up for a breath. This was Kane's first year as a member of the swim team.



photos by Tony Paga



Front Row: Josh Martin, George Scott, Eric Scott, Timothy Krebs, Jason Kane **Second Row:** Barbara Curnow (asst. coach), Manuel Longoria, Shaun Doyle, Daniel Santare, Everett Mull, Rob Gass (coach) **Third Row:** Joshua Nichalak, Kevin Riese, Karl Grimmer, David Gutowsky, Curtis Lamm, David Schaffenberger **Not pictured:** Paul Dalach, Jeffrey DeBoer

dictionary of terms

flipturn—"When you come to the wall, you have to throw your legs up over your head so you can push off the wall in the other direction."

—Eric Scott, sophomore

fulcrum—"It's the wheel that you move back and forth to adjust the stiffness of the board."

—Daniel Santare, junior



photos by Tony Paga

Waving his flag, junior David Schaffenberger gets the team pumped up before a meet. "My hat sets me apart from the rest of the team," said Schaffenberger. "It's something that no one else has."

Balancing himself, senior Jeffrey DeBoer prepares to do a backflip. DeBoer was one of two divers on the team. The other was junior Daniel Santare.



photos by Tony Paga

Highland
60-123

Hobart
93-92

Munster Relays
6th place

Rensselaer
107-76

Merrillville
90.5-94.5

Lake Central Invite
2nd place

Calumet
124-56

Crown Point
69-117

Sticking the card in the water, junior Kevin Riese keeps track of freshman David Gutowsky's laps during the 500 freestyle. Riese was co-captain of the team along with junior David Schaffenberger and senior George Scott.

photo by Tony Papa



Rising above the surface, senior George Scott takes a breath of air. The team's pasta party was held at Scott's house as he was one of the three team captains.

photo by Kay Norton

It was not an uncommon sight for the fans of the boys' swim team to see the swimmers doing belly-flops off the board after each meet. These dives were just some of the ceremonies the boys performed at their meets.

"We'd do all kinds of crazy jumps off the board once the home meets were over," said sophomore **Timothy Krebs**. "It was sort of like a little victory celebration."

Besides going off the board, many of the boys brought their own good luck charms to each meet.

"I brought my Jibba-Jabba to every meet," said junior **Kevin Riese**. "I'd rub its hair before all my races in order to go my fastest."

Whether or not these rituals helped the boys' performances, they were able to finish with a winning season, take third at Sectionals and send junior **David Schaffenberger** to state.

-Josh Martin

*making
a
splash*

In your words...

ShShain Doyle
junior



"We acted more like a team this year. We didn't separate and do our own things like previous years."

Karl Grimmer
junior

"This year, the juniors were the driving force behind the team as opposed to the seniors of prior years."



Everett Mall
sophomore



"We all came together and had enough spirit to bring new people into the program."

Hammond High 85-17 Morton 63.5-37.5 Munster 71-114 Lake Central 55-131 Lake 10 Conference 3rd place

Kankakee Valley 109-74

Clark 114-60

Lowell 121-61

Sectionals 3rd place

Swimming a race, freshman **Hannah Zemke** does the fly during the 200 Medley Relay. Zemke was a member of the record breaking 200 Medley Relay.

photo by Fay Netes



Front Row: Amber Price, Sarah Blanchard, Tracy Mazzone, Mary Belcher, Abigail Forbes Second Row: Rob Gass (coach), Stephanie Bridegroom, Melissa Steapleton, Hannah Zemke, Adrianna Aguilar, Barb Currow (asst. coach) Third Row: Veronica Solis, Jessica Everhart, Suzanne Wargo, Sara Saltanovitz, Shauna Santare Not pictured: Kara Kmiec, Sarah Blanchard

dictionary of terms

lanelines-“These are the separators in between each lane. They’re put there so the waves created by a person in one lane don’t interfere with a person swimming in another lane.”

-Mary Belcher, sophomore

piked position-“You bend over and touch your feet. It’s like you’re folded in half.”

-Sarah Blanchard, freshman



photo by Fay Netes

Planning a pasta party, senior Tracy Mazzone talks to the divers. The girls elected Mazzone to be their captain and one of her duties included planning the year-end pasta party.

Leaping from the board, freshman Amber Price does a backflip. Price placed third in the diving competition at Sectionals and qualified for Regionals.



photo by Fay Netes

Lowell
83-102

Gavit
76.5-99.5

Highland
65-120

Hobart
84-102

Munster
62-124

Rensselaer
95-90

Griffith Invite
2nd place

Merrillville
64-122

Lake Central Invite
3rd place

Finishing her race, junior **Melissa Steapleton** discovers that she has broken the school record. "I was really happy when I broke the record and it felt good to know the hard work had paid off," said Steapleton.

photo by Eay Netos



photo by Eay Netos

Performing a back somersault, sophomore **Kara Kmiec** dives from the board. Kmiec was unable to attend Sectionals because she was competing for a spot in the Australian tumbling competition.

Most students look forward to Christmas break. After all, it's a time for them to unwind and get away from the school. This was not true for the girls' swim team, which spent nearly six hours of each day at the pool.

"Even though we spent a lot of hours at the pool, things worked out to our advantage and we experienced a lot of time drops on the way," said sophomore **Abigail Forbes**.

Time drops weren't the only benefits of the long Christmas practices. They also helped to build up the girls' determination.

"It was hard to stay motivated and to come to all the practices, but afterwards I felt really good about it," said sophomore **Jessica Everhart**.

Even though the lengthy Christmas practices severely diminished the time the girls had to do their shopping, they paid off as the girls only lost one of their last six meets and broke four school records along the way.

-Josh Martin

practice
makes
perfect

In your words...

Tracy Meggione
senior



"It was really hard to stick with the practices all season long. They were extremely hard."

Suzanne Wargo
junior



"After losing to Gavit we had to try really hard to keep our spirits up and keep going."

Stephanie Bridegroom
freshman



"It wasn't fun going to practice all the time, but once I saw how my times changed, it was worth it."

Veronica Solis
freshman



"Christmas practices were difficult, but they were tolerable. They were good for getting to know people."



Front Row: Steven Homoky, Jordan Smith, Fermin Lopez, Shawn Andriessen, William Torres, Eriam Juarez, Bobby Lassiter. Second Row: Carrie Rex (mgr.), Kyle Alexander, Scott Gierman, Kevin Steiber, Shane Radtke, Dennis Palucki, Jeffrey Eaton, Timothy Thirion, David Colby, Brian Sowinski, Joshua Swentzel, Kristin Dross (mgr.). Third Row: Timothy Powers (asst. coach), Kyle Massa, Kyle Plesniak, Jason Alexander, Adam Collins, Daniel Housinger, Joshua York, Jason Schultz, Elliott Miller, Kevin Cap, Timothy Malo, Kristin Stitt (mgr.), John Kallok. Fourth Row: Brian Tomson (asst. coach), Justin Grimmer, William Barriga, Scott Negrete, Mario Ruff, Robert Bradford, Matthew Fliter, Victor Sendejas, Johnny Vargo, Kyle Domazet, Jason Angel, Russ Radtke (coach). Back Row: Kent Elliott, Joe Schultz, Tyler Radtke, Craig Kovera, Mark Amos, Rene Reyna, Patrick Fuentes, Mark Forster, Christopher Peacock, Craig Decker, Justin Sidor, Bret Rocchietti, Kevin Lehmann.

*In your
words...*

Joe Schultz
junior



"My favorite part about track is the practice because every practice is hard but sometimes we just have a lot of fun."

Mark Forster
freshman

"This was my first time running track, but I think I'll join next year to stay in shape for soccer and to get better."



*sharing
the
wins*

To observers track may seem more of an individual sport, but the members of the GHS track team know that teamwork and their teammates are very important.

For senior **Brian Sowinski**, his teammates on the mile relay team were the factor that inspired him to do his best.

"There was more pressure on me because the other guys on the relay team were really good," said Sowinski. "So I put in more work and made more of an effort."

To others, teammates were not only encouraging but also good friends.

"I had a great time talking with all the shot putters at meets," said senior shot putter **Kevin Lehmann**.

"Especially my number two shot putter [sophomore] David Colby."

Whether the boys were pressured by their team-mates or made

new friends, the teammates all shared one common goal: to win as a team.

-Allison German

Twisting, senior Shane Tinich vaults over the bar. Tinich was competing in the pole vault at Sectionals which was held in Highland.



photo by Eric Nelson



Lake 10 Indoor Meet
1st place

Bishop Noll/Calumet
99- 48 15

Highland/Morton
97- 36 32

Munster/Clark
82- 68 16

Cavit/Hammond High
62-82 23



Photo by Tim Nelson

Gaining height, junior Kent Elliott pushes himself over the bar. Elliott competed in the pole vault along with senior Shane Tinich and sophomore Timothy Malo.

Practicing his form, senior Rene Reyna throws the discus. Reyna was one of two track members to advance to state where he placed seventh.



Finishing it up, senior Ibrahim Brewer sprints to the finish line. Brewer was competing at sectionals when he tripped over a hurdle but still managed to finish the race.

Photo by Tim Nelson



Photo by Tim Nelson

Passing his opponent, senior Shane Hudnall competes in the mile race at Conference. Hudnall earned his best score of five minutes and four seconds at Conference.



Photo by Tim Nelson

dictionary of terms

dash—"The events when you run from 100 meters to 400 meters."

run—"Everything over 400 meters."
-Adam Collins, sophomore

fartlek—"Something we do in practice when you sprint for a certain distance and then go at 70 percent for the same distance."

-Scott Gierman, junior



Front Row: Elaine Parker, Fran Costello, Caryn Miller, Tania Fliter Second Row: Shannon Swope, Michelle Gaddini, Angelina Alvarez, Mary Belcher, Shauna Santare, Melissa Gaddini, Sarah Fry Back Row: Bernie Zemen (coach), Kathleen Vaneck, Breanne Steagall, Sara Salfanovitz, Valerie Anderson, Deborah Race

In your words...

Sh Shannon Swope
freshman



"At the start of the race I run at a medium/fast pace, but at the end I like to give it all that I can."

C Caryn Miller
sophomore

"My favorite part of track was when we took our group picture holding a sign that says 'Why do we run? Cuz it's fun.'"



"Just a couple of feet to go so I better hurry before somebody passes me up," is what would have come to most track members' minds upon approaching the finish line.

With so many girls racing towards the finish line, they all strive for placing high.

"I want to start picking up my speed and get into a full sprint by the time I get near the finish line," said sophomore Mary Belcher.

Some track members join track to keep in shape.

"I joined track so I could keep in shape for basketball and softball," said freshman Sarah Fry.

Whether racing to the line fast runners or slow runners, most team members found that giving it their all in the end helped them place better.

-Erick Cunningham

Flying through the air, freshman Melissa Gaddini leaps her way into the sandpit. Gaddini was one of many first year track members.



photo by Eric Noyes

Pacing herself, freshman Angelica Alvarez jogs her way down the track towards the finish line. She and the other track members competed in Highland





photo by Fay Norton

Giving it a final shove, freshman Breanne Steagall uses her own strength to toss the shot put at a practice in the fieldhouse. Steagall practiced with a broken leg.



photo by Fay Norton

Setting up to start her race, sophomore Caryn Miller prepares to start her race. This is the second year that Miller has been on track.



photo by Fay Norton

Jumping her highest, freshman Deborah Race clears her path over the hurdles in the competition held at Highland's track. This was her first year on track.



photo by Fay Norton

dictionary of terms

relay—Four people run a single race. Only one person runs at a time. They carry a baton and pass it between one another. Once the fourth runner finishes, the race is over.” —Mary Belcher, sophomore



photos by Tony Papp

Varsity

Front Row: Nicole Huber, Anni McQueary, Emily Rutledge, Laura Zagrocki, Traci Duncan, Candice Rossner, Michelle Adame
Back Row: Bruce Turner (coach), Nicole Clarkson, Marisa Garbay, Danielle Garnett, Jennifer Linders, Michelle Blessing, Bethany Morris, Jorie Flores, David Turner (coach), Edwin Flores (coach)



Junior Varsity

Front Row: Samantha Adame, Jennifer McQueary, Emily Coddington
Second Row: Michelle Cutka, Veronica Solis, Samantha Quintero, Carrie Giltmier, Carrie Petroski, Sara Palmer
Back Row: Amy Bishop (coach), Andrea Melendez, Nicole Popovich, Nancy Robies, Beth Connell, Jessica Everhart, Sarah Bacan, Julie Rutledge, Michelle Castillo (coach)



dictionary of terms

Dirty Girls—"Highland said that all Griffith girls are dirty. So, Mr. Flores started calling us 'Dirty Girls! Dirty Girls!' and it kinda worked also because as long as we were winning we didn't wash our uniforms."
-Jennifer Linders, senior



photos by Tony Papp

one Grove	Highland	Fenwick	Hammond High	Hobart	Bishop Noli	Clark	Andrean	Gavit	Lake Central	Whiting	Kankakee Valley
20-1	5-3; 1-2	0-4; 1-0	5-0	1-2	7-0	3-2	0-1	21-1	0-0, 0-5, 2-6	3-0	12-0



Ready at the plate, senior Bethany Morris prepares to bunt. At the sports banquet, Morris received an award for the most doubles.

'Go Go Get'em Get'em! Go
Get'em Go! - Beat'em Bust'em,
Beat'em Bust'em, that's our custom,
Go Panthers Go!"

Getting fired up with this cheer before every game was just one step in tradition-keeping for the softball team.

The girls practiced other traditions that pulled them together and boosted team spirit. Others were more superstitious, like not stepping on the lines when taking the field.

While some traditions were team events, the girls also relied on certain individuals to perform their own rituals. Senior Bethany Morris

Ready to run sophomore Emily Coddington waits at base. Coddington mostly played junior varsity but when junior varsity didn't have a game, she played with varsity.



photos by Tony Enye

In your words...

Michelle Adams
senior



"We were the 'dirty girls'. That's one name for our team that I'll never forget."

always got the ball for the pitcher at every inning. Another senior leading the tradition craze was senior Candice Rossner, who, when up to bat, was seen stretching before every ball.

The team took some traditions off the field and added fun.

"Crowding together, the team celebrates a win. "After every home game we'd walk out into center field and Bruce [Turner] would assess the game and talk about the next one. We'd always say the mascot of the next team we'd play," said senior Jennifer Sanders.

"Every year we tee-pee

the coaches' houses right before sectionals. It's a tradition" said senior Jorie Flores. "This year was the best. Bruce [Turner]'s house looked like a junkyard."

-Vanessa Cutka

it's
a
tradition

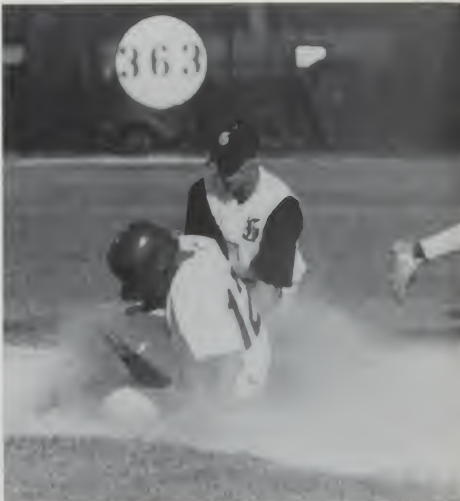
Alumet	Morton	Munster	Portage	Hanover	Central	N. Newton	Shenandoah	Twin Lakes	Valparaiso	Crown Point	Merrillville	S.B. Wash	S.B. Riley
10-0	0-2	2-1	1-2		7-0	16-4	5-0	2-3	0-1	2-7	0-3	3-2	7-6



Front Row: Andrew Kohut, Jason O'Donnell, Jeremy Buzea **Second Row:** Louie Aguilar (asst. coach), Salvador Aguilar, Ryan Skomac, Donald Hill, Christopher Brookhart, Ian Flores, Dale Rudzinski, Dom Chidichimo (asst. coach) **Third Row:** Ryan Hill, Steve Holzbach, Christopher Troksa, Jim Terpstra, Matthew Sherry, Daniel Falda, David Mazzocco, Joshua Todd, Todd Iwema (coach)



Front Row: Kyle Konopasek, Nicholas Crawford, Michael Tomaszewski, Christopher Hill, Jason Lebata, Brooks Smith **Second Row:** Jason Tomcsi, Joshua Banning, Michael Reyna, Kevin Wlazlo, Kevin Suba, Eddie Covarrubias, Michael Powers, Gerald Dally (coach)



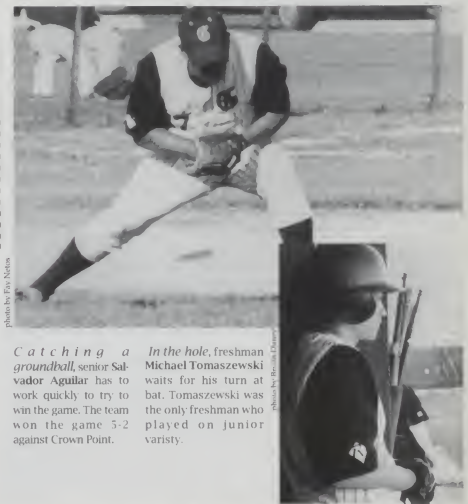
dictionary of terms

pinch hitter—"When a substitute batter hits for a player in the lineup."

-Eddie Covarrubias, junior

in the hole—"The person after the batter on deck."

-Joshua Banning, sophomore



Catching a groundball, senior Salvador Aguilar has to work quickly to try to win the game. The team won the game 5-2 against Crown Point.

In the hole, freshman Michael Tomaszewski waits for his turn at bat. Tomaszewski was the only freshman who played on junior varsity.

Photo by Brian Chalmers



Tagging a Crown Point player, freshman Michael Tomaszewski attempts to get him out. The Crown Point game resulted in a victory for the Panthers 5-2.

Photo by Eric Nelson



Photo by Eric Nelson

Throwing a pitch, junior Ian Flores tries to strike out his opponent. Flores's pitching record was 5-2.

Starting a season off with a record of 6-0 is an extremely difficult task. It's even harder to keep such a streak going. The baseball team found this out as they were 5-8 for the 13 games after their six wins.

"After we got off to such a good start, we hit a slump in the middle of the season," said junior Dale Rudzinski. "We were able to get our act back together towards the end and we even beat Andean."

Several players thought that the slump occurred because the team was too relaxed.

"We won our first six games and got a little too overconfident," said junior David Mazzocco. "We needed to approach some of the teams with a little less certainty. We were sure that we were going to win."

Even with the losses in the middle of the season, the team only lost one game at the end of the season which helped them finish with a record of 20-9.

-Josh Martin

back
on
track

In your words...

Kyle Konopasek
sophomore



"I think that we played good as a team, even when we were losing."

Christopher Hill
sophomore

"We all really got along so that made the games more fun to play."



Salvador Aguilar
senior



"People cared more about sectionals; they decorated our lockers and the hallway."

Looking for some fuel
freshman Lisa Carroll
and freshman Sarah
Handley search for
some food before their
match. They had to wait
until the courts were
open to play.

dictionary of terms

love—"When both players haven't scored any points, they say the score is love, love."

-Selena Saldana, freshman

set—"The point of tennis is to win two out of three sets. A set is won when the first player wins six games."

-Lisa Carroll, freshman

base line—"The backline determines what is in and out. The server needs to stand behind it when serving or it is considered a foot foul."

-Claire Hudacin, sophomore



Front Row: Amanda Paul, Danielle Rossman, Selena Saldana, Lisa Carroll, Julie Purgert, Shelly Hively Second Row: Shannon Hammers, Sarah Handley, Claire Hudacin, Colleen Vechey, Lena Steinhubel, Lindsay Chapa, Christina Govert Third Row: Susan Huss, Michelle Cuneo, Amanda Greovich, Meagan Clarke, Andjela Subotic, Laura Purgert, Jenny Dalach, Tim Maluga (Coach)



photo by Coach Mary Hays

Whiting
5-0

Clark
4-1

Morton
5-0

Lake Station
0-5

Chesterion
0-5

Merrillville
1-4

Crown Point
0-5

Hammond High
5-4



*D*oubling their efforts, the girls' tennis team finished fourth in conference. Last season they placed eighth.

"The team worked hard to get there and deserve it," said sophomore **Andjela Subotic**. "It took great effort to stay there."

Part of the team's success was due to confidence. Through challenging their teammates, it gave them an opportunity to play at a higher rank.

"At first, I was intimidated because I was younger. Then I started challenging and winning," said freshman **Julie Purgert**.

Placing has an importance on the team, but without understanding it is hopeless.

"Playing with my sister cuts down on the strain," said Purgert. "I know she won't yell at me if I mess up."

Through the ups and downs of the sport, the team tried to set a goal for next year.

"We played up to our potential and tried our hardest," said Subotic. "If we stay focused we are bound to succeed and move up in ranking."

-Meagan Clarke

*half
as
nice*

Serving for the match, sophomore **Jaci Bolsega** hits the ball with all her power. Bolsega challenged her teammates to hold her spot on junior varsity.



photo by Bryan Dancy

In your words...

Susan Huss
sophomore



"I love doubles because I am friends with my partner on and off the court."

Amanda Pank
sophomore



"Tennis is a sport where practice is the key to succeeding."

Going for it all, junior **Meagan Clarke** hits a backhand against Crown Point. Clarke was named captain at the awards banquet.

Bishop Noll 5-0

Lowell 2-3

Andrean 1-4

Munster 0-5

Lake 10 Conference 4th place

River Forest 2-3

Crown Point Sectionals 0-5



Varsity
Front Row: Tom Wells (coach), Noah Zondor, Jason Carroll, Matthew Najar, Derek Blythe, Larry Parker (coach) Back Row: Joel Bratton, Matt Thon, Paul Blahunka, Jeremy Boilek, Timothy Turkowski



Junior Varsity
Front Row: Tom Wells (coach), Joshua Moon, Derek Blythe, Brad Sowinski, Tony Papa, Angel Velez, Larry Parker (coach) Back Row: Matthew Najar, Matt Thon, Brett Bierman, Adam Wartsbaugh, Omar Gonzalez

*In your
words...*

Tony Papa
Junior

"I told coach that not playing [a lot] doesn't bother me. Just being with my friends and having fun was enough."



*one swing
at
a time*

Checking his score before talking to the coach, sophomore Paul Blahunka tries to surmise a way to take off a couple of strokes within the last holes.



photo by Tony Papa

Going farther than decades before you is something to be remembered for.

"For the first time in around 20 years, Griffith High School [golf] made regionals," said senior Jason Carroll.

Placing third in sectionals allowed the guys to compete in regionals where they took twelfth.

Although the team was progressing far into the season they knew it was important not to let their successes get to them.

"It's a challenge," said Carroll, "and no matter how well you're doing, you have to keep concentrating because one shot can ruin your game."

Younger players, like sophomore Adam Wartsbaugh, are prepared to fulfill this legacy that their older teammates have left them.

"It was my first year and I played more golf than I ever did," said

Wartsbaugh.

"It's relaxing and at the same time challenging."

-Vanessa Cutka



Waiting for his shot to come down, sophomore Derek Blythe holds his form. This was Blythe's first season on the team.

Draining a putt, senior Jeremy Boilek reaches into the cup to retrieve the ball. Boilek led the Panthers at regionals to clinch twelfth place.

Photo by Tim Hays



Photo by Tim Hays

of terms
dictionary **Traveling Beachwood Cup**—Coach Wells had to sit and wait for us to get done and he had this styrofoam cup and he wrote our scores and motivational sayings all over it. That's gonna be our traveling trophy and hopefully we'll bring it back to regionals."
 —Timothy Turkowski, junior

Chuggin' up the hills
 at Beachwood, senior Noah Zondor plots out his next shot. Zondor led the Panthers at the match with an 84.

Bishop Noll	Lowell	Lou Iaconetti Tournament	Clark	Merrillville	Lake 10 Conference Invitational	Lake Station	Sectional	Regional
175	158	14th	183	163	1st	231	3rd	12th

In your words...

Carrie Rex
senior



"Being a manager gives me a chance to meet people that I wouldn't have met otherwise."

Megan Clarke
junior



"I went to every tennis game and gave the guys support. Tim Maluga then appointed me manager."

Jan Flores
junior



"I wanted to do something to keep me busy when I wasn't actually playing a sport."

Imagine having a job where your duties include putting together medical kits, carrying equipment, doing paper work, taking inventory, and giving up most of your summer. Now, imagine that you don't get paid for these services. This is exactly what it is like to be a team manager.

"We are at school all day and we have no time for ourselves," said senior **Brenda Moore**. "We do everything except play and coach."

Even with the immense amount of work involved in being a manager, most sports had at least one manager and sometimes more. With all the responsibilities a manager has, many people wonder why anyone would want to be one.

"I wanted to help out the team and the school," said junior **Amanda Marcus**. "I wanted to experience the bond between player and coach that you only experience when you're part of the team."

Keeping it together

With all the time the managers put into the sports, many feel that they are not recognized as much as they should be, and according to Marcus, a team wouldn't be able to run as successfully and smoothly without the help of managers.

-Josh Martin

Cutting a towel, seniors **Carrie Rex** and **Brenda Moore**, football managers, prepare for a game. The football players used the pieces of towel to dry off their hands and maintain a good grip on the ball.





Emptying the All-Sport container, junior Amanda Marcus, football manager, cleans up after a game. Marcus, who also managed baseball, was just one of many students who managed several sports.

photo by Fax News



photo by Fax News

managers

■ Joshua Banning - Girls' Basketball	Anna Lafayette - Girls' Soccer
■ Jeffery Bice - Girls' Soccer	William Laviolette - Boys' Basketball
■ Meagan Clarke - Boys' Tennis	Jason Lebata - Girls' Basketball
■ Robert Day - Boys' Basketball	Amanda Marcus - Baseball, Football
■ Kristin Dross - Boys' Track	Gina Menchaca - Football
■ Paul Dudley - Baseball	Brenda Moore - Football, Wrestling
■ Ian Flores - Volleyball	Carrie Rex - Boys' Track, Wrestling
■ Scott Gierman - Boys' Basketball	Eric Salczynski - Girls' Basketball
■ Melissa Hart - Boys' Basketball	Melissa Steapleton - Baseball
■ Ginger Hartman - Boys' Basketball	Kristin Stitt - Boys' Track
■ Tammy Heft - Boys' Basketball	Jason Tomcsi - Girls' Basketball
■ Tina Heft - Boys' Basketball	Melissa White - Boys' Tennis



photo by Fax News

Taking a break, senior Jeffery Bice, girls' soccer manager, buys some Mountain Dew. Bice often bought pop before games, as soccer took place during some of the hottest months of the year.

Chatting before their first Homecoming parade, freshmen Christy Bumbales and Janis Walenkiewicz wait in line. The four freshmen cheerleaders made their debut in the parade on their own fire engine.

photo by Jay Netow



Taking stats, freshman Matthew Lewis sits in the dugout. According to Lewis, they worked hard for their 8-4 record. "As a team, we improved a lot," said Lewis."

Crouching behind the plate, freshman Jack Johnson catches for the freshman team in the early part of the season. Johnson later moved to junior varsity where he played third base.

photo by Jay Netow



photo by Jay Netow



Competing within your own age group, being with your best friends, and getting loads of playing time were all benefits of playing freshman sports. Without older players, unlike on junior varsity and varsity, the freshmen ran the show.

"[With other grades playing] the freshmen wouldn't get any playing time," said freshman Matthew Lewis, baseball, "and there would be much tougher competition."

Although freshman Selena Saldana, volleyball, agreed that she felt more comfortable, she also felt that they missed out by not having examples to follow.

"We didn't have more experienced people to learn from," said Saldana, "but we did have a lot of people with experience."

Freshman Sarah Blanchard, cheerleading, pointed out other benefits of having a variety of age levels together.

"I think it would have been even more fun," said Blanchard. "You would have had a lot of differing opinions and some decisions would have been a lot easier to make with other grades."

So, whether the athletes liked their teams of freshmen or would have preferred being mixed, they won't have this chance again. According to Saldana, those that continue on in sports will appreciate the bonds they were able to form.

"It's going to be easier to work with the same group of people throughout high school," said Saldana.

-Vanessa Cutka

Avoiding a tackle, freshman Tyler Radtke plays in the scrimmage game. Some freshmen also got their chance to play in the last quarter of the State Championship game at the Dome.

photo by Eric Norrie



In your words...

Sarah Puffy
freshman volleyball



"It was fun because I got to play on a team with a bunch of my friends. We played well together as a team."

Justin Grimmer
freshman football

"It was nice to play on a team and compete against kids that are your own age."



apart
from
the rest

Determination, experience, humor, desire. What does it take to be a leader? A look at any Griffith coach can help clear up this question by showing that it takes a combination of these qualities and more.

Junior **Manuel Longoria** credited his swim coach, Robert Gass, with his positive swim season.

"His heart and mind are in the right place," said Longoria. "It's made a difference."

According to Longoria, that kind of attitude is contagious.

"He's determined to get Griffith [swimming] into the State Championship. That kind of enthusiasm fuels the rest of the team."

what it takes

While a coach's voice can encourage a team, sometimes that commanding voice can intimidate if used to shout out orders. Senior **Bethany Morris** said this was not how her softball coach, Bruce Turner, ran things.

"He doesn't try to tell us, 'You're doing this wrong and you're doing this wrong!'" said Morris. "He tries to help us with the basics but doesn't mess with our own style."

Experience helped out in coaching but some of the less obvious traits were also useful in making a season memorable for an athlete.

"They're understanding," said Morris. "If you make a bad play they don't yell at you and get down on you. They try to pick you up."

-Vanessa Cutka



photos by Ray Nettie

Coaching from the sideline, Timothy Powers, girls' basketball coach, gets into the game. "I stomp my feet and I bruise my heel," said Powers. "And there are times when I'll kneel in this position and I'll smash my hands so hard on the floor that I bruise my hands and I don't notice until the next day."



photos by Ray Nettie

Breaking with his team, Ron Knestrict, Sr., soccer coach, goes over a play during a Highland game. Knestrict Sr. coached boys' soccer with his son, Ron Knestrict, Jr.

Watching every move, Travis Walls, wrestling coach, keeps his focus on the mat. Several coaches, like Walls who coached wrestling and football, coached multiple sports.

photos by Tracy Rogers





Getting in his face, Brian Tomson, football coach, corrects senior Jimmy Maskovich. "I was politely explaining to Jimmy Maskovich the error of his ways," said Tomson.

Photo by Tomson



Assuming the position, Russ Radtke, head football coach, expresses himself to the referee. "He does this when he wants to get his point across and yells 'You gotta be kidding me!'" said junior David Lopez.

Photo by Tomson

In your words...

Shannon Swope
junior



"Bernie [Zemen, track coach] doesn't yell if you do something wrong. He just tells me that next time I'll do better."

Gordon Dilling
girls' basketball coach



"They [players] come out with a better understanding of how the individual relates to the success of the group."

Kyle Massa
freshman



"Coach Radtke plays everybody. He's an intense coach, but at the same time, he's a good person to be around."

Robert Gass
swim coach



"I wanted to give something back to the sport that gave me so much. I want my swimmers to have the same opportunities."

In your words...

Gabriel March
junior



"The school doesn't offer volleyball for boys, so I have to be part of a league outside of the school."

Michael Tuzar
junior



"You can have more fun playing with your friends because you're not pressured to do well."

J. Jason Kane
junior



"In order to stay in shape for swimming you have to be part of a swim club over the summer."

Hockey. Water Polo. Croquet. What do these things have in common? None of them are school sponsored sports. And while many people would like to see the school sponsor more sports, there are those who would prefer their sports to remain freelance.

"Un-sponsored sports allow me to shape my practices and competitions around my schedule," said freshman **John Jensen**. "The school does not sponsor aggressive skating either."

Many students agreed that the lack of school sponsored sports was a problem.

"We're not just missing sports like rugby and la crosse," said junior **Scott Gierman**. "There are some key sports, such as hockey, that the school has yet to offer."

Even though some people would like to see

let the games begin

the school offer more sports, many students think that the strongest point about unsponsored sports is that you can do whatever you

want, whenever you want. *-Josh Martin*

Stretching out, senior Blair Bernath prepares for dance class. Bernath enjoyed dancing because it was relaxing and a good way to stay in shape.





Laughing it up, junior **Jennean Pondo** rollerblades down the street. Pondo spent much of her spring break rollerblading with friends.

Taking a break, senior **Chris Banning** checks his skateboard. The high school parking lot was a popular place for skateboarders to get together and skate.



photo by Tony Papa



photo by Eric Roberts



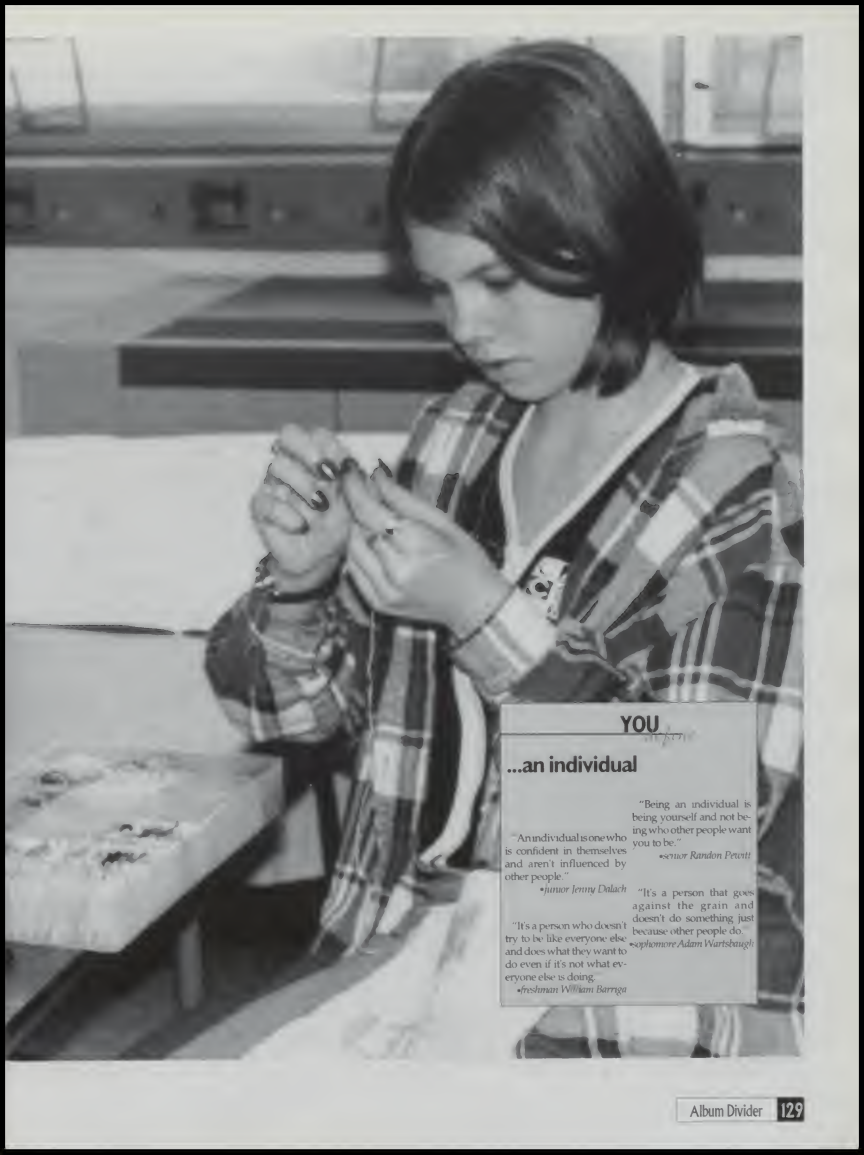
Shooting some hoops, senior **Brian Farrenkopf** dribbles the ball. Farrenkopf enjoyed playing against people or just shooting around.

the definition of an individual

individual n. *distinguished by particular attributes or identifying traits; distinctive.* A new year meant new trends and different attributes and traits that helped students express who they were as individuals. Big purses and shoulder bags replaced backpacks for students who didn't want to carry their books in their arms. Flared jeans became popular and replaced the old straight cut jeans, while cargo pants, with their extra pockets on the legs, also made their debut in pants and shorts form. When not doing homework, some students could be found watching the popular cartoon "South Park" on Comedy Central, "Dawson's Creek" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" on the WB, "Beverly Hills 90210," "Party of Five," the "X-Files," or "Ally McBeal" on Fox, or for some it was professional wrestling on USA and TNT. Weekends could be spent dancing the night away at Zero Gravity, a dance club for young adults between the ages of 16-23, taking in a movie at Showplace 16 or the traditional shopping at the mall. No matter what students decided to wear, watch, or do, it all showed who they were and helped define them as individuals.



SEW WHAT Freshman Kristen Mattozzi works on a cross-stitch project for her beginning textiles class taught by Mary Tomcsi, family and consumer sciences. "The project was hard and I kept poking myself with the needle," said Mattozzi.



YOU

...an individual

"An individual is one who is confident in themselves and aren't influenced by other people."

—junior Jenny Dalach

"It's a person who doesn't try to be like everyone else and does what they want to do even if it's not what everyone else is doing."

—freshman William Barriga

"Being an individual is being yourself and not being who other people want you to be."

—senior Randon Pettit

"It's a person that goes against the grain and doesn't do something just because other people do."

—sophomore Adam Wartsbaugh

TAKE THE LEAD

Seniors decide where they fit in

Trendy or unique? Individuals or conformists? How can a label be placed on any class?

"I think our senior class is a mesh of all kinds of people," said senior **Patrick Eddy**, "or a mesh of people that are the same but are trying to be different."

Not only would it be hard to label a class, finding a place for the individual is just as challenging.

"I don't seem to be like everybody else," said senior **Tim Adams**, "and it seems like a lot of work to change with not much profit from it."

Senior **Christine Gulota** explained how her senior experience turned out to be less than she expected.

"I remember being younger and looking at seniors and thinking, 'Wow, they get to do so much stuff!'" said Gulota. "And now that I'm a senior I'm wondering where all that cool stuff went."

Whether it was less than what was dreamed, all that was imagined, or completely indescribable altogether, what was made of it was up to each individual.

-Vanessa Cutka



Adding a twist to the SADD door decorating contest, seniors Steven McGuire and Jason Carroll paste Carroll's head on a body builder. "Some of us in newspaper put an alternative poster on our other door," said Carroll. "It had to have something to do with Christmas and drunk driving so we decided to use: 'Drink Milk, not alcohol.'"



Kicking back for a Friday after-school Remnant meeting, senior Jeffery Bice waits for the call to order of the club's first meeting of the year. Students' joined clubs, such as Remnant, to unite their common interests and beliefs. "When I joined they made me feel welcome," said Bice. "It helps me feel like I belong."



We'll basically be starting over next year.

-senior **Christina Barriga**



Melinda Abbott

Michelle Adame Softball 10 11 12 (BMA 11), Soccer 10 11 12, Basketball 10 11, Honor Society 10 11 12, Homecoming Queen 12, Class Council 11 12 (treasurer 12)

Salvador Aguilar Baseball 10 11 12 (MI 10), Spanish Club 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Student Council 12, Class Council 12

Nicole Aloia



Kristopher Anderson

Football 10, Baseball 10, Panther Press 10 11 12

Shawn Andriessen Football 10 11 12 (Academic All-State, All-Conference), Wrestling 10 11 12 (Semi-State Qualifier, Sectional Champ, Track 11 12 (Regional Qualifier), Baseball 10, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Nicholas Bacan

Lea Baccino DECA 11 12



Brian Bailitz Spanish Club 10

Chris Banning Art Club 11 12

Adam Barks Football 10 11 12, Track 10 11, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Academic All-Area, Academic All-Conference, Academic All-State

Christina Barriga Student Council 11 12, SADD 10 11 12, Spanish Club 10 11 (sec. 10), Who's Who Among American High School Students 11, Tennis 10



Lizette Bautista DECA 12

Blair Bernath Choir 10 11 (secretary 10, treasurer 11), Chorale 12 (historian 12), Honor Society 10 11, SADD 10 11 12 (president 12), Booster Club 10 11 12 (secretary 11), Pantherettes 11 (All-American), DARE Role Model

Jeffrey Bice

Jeffrey Bingham



Michelle Blessing Soccer 10 11 12, Softball 10 11 12, Student Council 10 11 12, Class Council 11 12, Choir 10 (v.p. 10)

Carrie Blount

Jeremy Boilek Golf 10 11 12 (MI 10 11, Regional Qualifier 11), Art Club 11 12, AHSME Participant 11 12, Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Recipient 12

Joseph Bonnema Football 10 11 12 (Special Mention All-State 11, Captain, All-Conference Defensive Lineman, School Record Most Sacks, BMA 12)

Brenda Braden
Shannon Brandon
Joel Bratton Golf 10 11 12
Julie Brines

Melissa Britton
Jason Carroll Golf 10 11 12, Panther Press 10 11 12 (co-editor-in-chief 11 12), National Quill & Scroll 11
Brandi Caruso DECA 11 12 (v.p. 12), ICF 12, Spanish Club 11
Raymond Castillo

Fran Costello Track 10 11 12, Cross Country 12 (MVP 12), Honor Society 11 12, Volleyball 10 11, Booster Club 10 11 12, Class Council 10 11 12

William Cullens

Michael Curtis Band 10 11 12 (M1 11), State Solo Contest 11 12

Vanessa Cutka Choir 10 11 (All State 11), Chorale 12 (sec 12), Reflector 10 11 12 (co-editor-in-chief 12), National Quill & Scroll 11 12, Band 10, Who's Who Among American High School Students

Robert Day Basketball Student Assistant 12

Jeffrey DeBoer Drama 10 11 12 (student director 12), Choir 10, Chorale 11 12 (pres. 12, All-State 11 12), Class Council 10 11 12, Diving 12, DARE Role Model 12

Melissa Dec Track 10 11, Basketball 10

Julia Demske Class Council 11 12 (pres. 12), Choir 10 (sec.), Choralettes 11 (v.p.), Chorale 12 (v.p.), Student Council 11 12, Honor Society 11 12, Drama 10 11 12

Todd Doctor Soccer 10 11 12, Wrestling 10 11 12 (M1 10), Varsity Club 10 11 12

Tony Doctor Soccer 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Wrestling 12

Tiffany Drake
Elizabeth Dresbaugh



SLACKING OFF

Senioritis hits the high school

Senioritis: many seniors experience it and use it as an excuse for forgetting homework or getting low grades. What exactly is senioritis?

"Senioritis is the intense slacking off that comes with the end of the senior year," said senior **Steven McGuire**.

So when does this start?

"I would have to say the months of April and May. The teachers are pushing to get the lessons in, Prom is coming up, senior banquet, and everyone is trying to get graduation set and ready," said senior **Melissa Sims**. "I also have a job and band to contend with. I just take everything a day at a time."

McGuire has some advice for the upcoming seniors:

"Don't try to avoid it [senioritis]; it will come."

-Melissa White



photo by Eric Soren

Receiving her superlative from senior **Julia Demske**, senior **Angela Stout** wins for best hair as senior **Candice Rossner** looks on. "I wanted to win best hair but I didn't think I'd get it because there were a couple other girls who I thought had pretty hair too," said Stout.



photo by Eric Soren

Using paper clips to hang his gown, senior **Jason Carroll** attempts to steam it during his L.R. "I was trying to hang it [gown] in the darkroom to steam it with hot water to get the wrinkles out," said Carroll.

Kristin Dross Manager 10 11 12
(Football 11 12, Track 10 11 12), Varsity
Club 10 11 12 (treas. 12)

Bryan Duney Panther Press 10
11 12 (photo ed. 12), Honor Society 10
11 12, Student Council 10 11 12, Cho-
rale 11 12, Super Bowl 10 11 12 (Captain
10 11), Quill & Scroll 11 12

Jason Dykstra

Jeffrey Eaton Football 10 11 12,
Track 10 11 12 (BMA 11), Class Council
(pres. 10, v.p. 11), Student Council 10 11
12, Honor Society 10 11 12, Varsity Club
10 11 12

Patrick Eddy

Brigitte Evers

Daniel Falda Basketball 10 11 12
(BMA 11, Co-Captain 12), Baseball 10
11 12, Student Council 10 11 12 (v.p.
10, treas. 12), Panther Press 11 12, JETS
10 11 12 (Third Place in Nation 11)

Brian Farrenkopf Soccer 10
11 12 (Ml 11, All-Conference 12, Sec-
ond Team All-Area 12), Band 10 11 12

Tania Fliter Basketball 10 11 12
(MVP 10 11), Soccer 10 11 12 (MVP 10
11), Track 10 11 12 (BMA 10) Student
Council 10 11 12 (sec. 11, v.p. 12),
Honor Society 10 11 12 (sec. 11 12),
Panther Press 10 11 12

Jennifer Flores

Jorie Flores Softball 10 11 12
(MVP 11, Captain 12), Volleyball 10 11
12 (Co-MVP 12, Captain 11 12), Honor
Society 10 11 12, Choir 10 11, Chorale
12, Basketball 11 (BMA 11), Varsity
Club 10, 11, 12

Sharon Gardner Swimming 10
11, Tennis 11, Band 10 11

Susan Garibay Pantherettes 11
12 (pres. 12), Class Council 11 12,
Booster Club 10 11 12, Cheerleading
10, Softball 10, Choir 10

Anthony Garland

Danielle Garnett volleyball
10 11 12 (MVP, Captain 12), Turnabout,
Prom, Homecoming Court, Softball 10
11 12 (First Team All Conference, First
Team All-Area 11), Varsity Club 10 11
12

Dawn Gervais

Ryan Gettig Tennis 10 11 12 (Co-
MVP, Regional Champ, All-Conference
12), Boy's State 11, JETS 11

Allison Gierman Pantherettes
11 12 (sec. 12), Reflector 10 11 12,
Booster Club 10 11 12, Class Council
10 11 12, SADD 10 11 12, Quill & Scroll
10 11 12, Who's Who Among High
School Students 11 12

Tanya Gillispie

Peter Gniadek Wrestling 10 11
12 (BMA 11 12)





Donald Gogal

Daniel Gomez Baseball 10 11,
Spanish Club 10 11 12

Nicholas Gomez Americanism
and Government State Winner 10

Stefanie Gould Bowling 10 11,
SADD 10 11 12, Student Council 11,
Band 10 11 12



Brandon Govert Football 10 11
12, Basketball 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Theresa Govert

Tracy Govert DECA 12, ICE 12,
SADD 11, Basketball 10

Michael Grasc Football 10 11
12 (All-State 12), Wrestling 10 11 12
(MVP 12), DARE Role Model 12, Varsity
Club 10 11 12



Thomas Grasha Football 10 11 12
(State Champions 12), Track 10 11 12

Karrie Green

Christine Gulota

Clinton Guy



Christina Hageman Rem-
nant 10 11 12 (sec. 11, v.p. 12), Drama 10
11 12, Choir 10 11, Chorale 12, DARE
Role Model 12

Kelsey Haldi

Bonnie Hallsted Chorale 12
(All-State 11 12), Remnant 10 11 12
(sec. 12), Panther Press 10 11 12,
Honor Society 10 11 12, Spell Bowl 10 11
12 (Captain 12)

Nikki Haluska Track 10 11 12,
Booster Club 10 11 12, Class Council 10
11 12, Cross Country 10, Pantherettes
11 12 (hist. 12), DECA 11



Veronica Hammond DARE
Role Model 12, Booster Club 10 11

Nicole Hanson

Ginger Hartman Soccer 10
(MVP 10), Manager 10 11 12 (Wrestling
10, Basketball 11 12)

Megan Harveth Cheerleading
10 11 12 (sec. 11 12, M1 10), Choir 10,
Choralettes 11 (sec.), Chorale 12,
Booster Club 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10
11 12, Who's Who Among American
High School Students 10 11 12

Jill Havlin Booster Club 10 11 12,
Varsity Club 11 12, SADD 12, Reflector
11 12, Cheerleading 11 12 (sec., BMA
12), Quill & Scroll 11 12

Tina Heft Soccer 10 (M), Choir 10,
Booster Club 11 12, Manager (Basket-
ball 10 11 12)

Donald Hill

Jason Hubbard

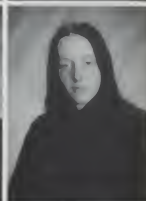


Melissa Huber

Natalie Huber

Shane Hudnall Soccer 10 11 12
(BMA 10), Honor Society 10 11 12,
Track 10 11 12, Student Council 10 11
12, Spanish Club 10 11 12 (s.p. 12),
Drama 12

David Hughes



Nicole Huitsing Tennis 10 11
(MVP 10), Honor Society 10 11,
Superbowl 10 12, Spellbowl 10 11 12,
Drama 10 11 12, Who's Who Among
American High School Students 10

Stacey Igielski

Tenesha Jackson DECA 11 12

Karen Jensen Cheerleading 10
11 12 (sec. 11, Co-Captain 12), Choir 10
(sec.), Booster Club 10 11 12, Spanish
Club 11 12, Who's Who Among Ameri-
can High School Students 11 12, Varsity
Club 10 11 12



Steven Jerome

Christina Jewett Honor Society
11 12, Student Council 11 12, Panther
Press 11 12 (Harvey Award winner 12),
Quill & Scroll 11 12, Class Council 12,
Hoosier Girls' State 11

Laura Johnson Cheerleading 10
11 12, Band 10 11 12, Honor Society 10
11 12, Student Council 12, Class Coun-
cil 12, DARE Role Model 12

Ben Jordan



Todd Kapciak

Steve Kecman

Michael Kelley Tennis 10 11
12 (Regional Champions, Co-MVP, First
Team All-Conference 12), Student
Council 10 11 12 (pres. 12), Class Coun-
cil 12, Track 10

Kerensa Kent



REFLECTIONS OF TIME

Seniors reminisce about junior high

The senior remembers back to his junior high years, and the awe he felt when he saw a senior walking down the hall. Now, every time he walks down the junior high hall, the respect he once felt for the seniors has become lost throughout the years. The junior high kids just brush past him or bump into him without a second thought.

"Back when I was in junior high, I feared and respected seniors," said senior **Matthew Pollock**, "unlike today's junior high students."

A few seniors knew what to expect when entering their senior year.

"In ninth grade, I was friends with some seniors, so I thought I would basically know what it would be like to be a senior," said senior **Spring Crawford**. "But now that I am a senior, I don't feel like one. I'm short, so some people think I'm 12 years old."

Times have changed. Many seniors realize that their junior high years were much more different than they are today.

-Melissa White



Photo by Fay Nefco

Receiving his yearbook from junior Nicole Voges, senior **Matthew York** makes sure his name is checked off the list. Passing out yearbooks required the help of many people, including parents.



Photo by Fally Papa

Looking away, senior **Jason Pantea** winces as his blood is taken at the annual National Honor Society blood drive. "Truthfully, I gave blood to get out of class," said Pantea.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

Cutest

Nicole Mowery, Noah Zondor

Best Hair

Angela Stout, Christopher Papiomatas

Smartest

Tania Fliter, Daniel Falda

Class Flirt

Mandi Messinio, Shane Tinich

Best Athlete

Tania Fliter, Shawn Andressen

Prettiest Smile

Blair Bernath, Johnny Vargo

Most Unique

Michelle Levy, Brian Bailitz

Prettiest Eyes

Nikki Haluska, Steven Holzbach

Most Cheerful

Jennifer Surret, Jessie Vaca

Best Dressed

Fran Costello, Brian Wlazlo

Most Likely to Succeed

Tania Fliter, Daniel Falda

Best Artist

Shannon Brandon, Noah Zondor

Best Personality

Jennifer Surret, Michael Grasc

Most Involved

Julia Demske, Jeffrey DeBoer

Cutest Couple

Tina Heft, Jason Strayer

Funniest

Nikki Simpson, Shawn Andressen

Most Leadership

Candice Rossner, Shane Radtke

Most Musical

Lydia Whitehead, Chris Tatz

Aaron Kessel
Ruth Kiel Remnant 11 (treas.)
Jonathan Kinder
Adam King



Linda King
Sheila Kleidon Choir 10, Volleyball 10 (BMA), Basketball 10 11, Turnabout Court
Jerome Kobeszka

Andrew Kohut Baseball 10 11 12 (M), All Conference Honorable Mention, All-Area Honorable Mention 11, Basketball 11 12 (BMA, Academic All-Area 12), Football 10, Honor Society 12



Craig Konopasek Soccer 10 11 12 (Co-Captain, Second Team All-Area, All Conference Honorable Mention 12), Track 10 11, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Prom Court, Homecoming Court
Keith Kopanda Ford AAA State Contest

Roxanne Kras
Timothy Kulinski



Jimmy Labas
Alexander LaBounty
Anna LaFayette Drama 10 11 12 (Student Director 12), Honor Society 10 11 12, Spanish Club 10 11 12 (pres. 12), Choir 10 11, Chorale 12, Spell Bowl 10 11 12, Manager 11 12 (Soccer)
Curtis Lamm



Jennifer Leek
Kevin Lehmann Football 10 11 12 (All-Area, Region One All-Star 12), Track 10 11 12 (NI 11)
Nathan Liechty
Jennifer Linders Softball 10 11 12 (All-Area Honorable Mention 10, First Team All-Area 11), Volleyball 10 11, Band 10 11 12 (v.p. 12), Drama 11 12, DARE Role Model 12





Keith Loudenber

Alicia Lowden

Cara Massa

Shane Massa Football 10



Amanda Mathews

Angela Mattozzi Pantherettes
11 12 (Squad Leader 12), Choir 10 11
(sec. 11), Chorale 12, Honor Society 10
11 12, SADD 10 11 12

Tracy Mazzone Swimming 10
11 12 (Captain 11 12), Track 11

Steven McGuire Honor Society
10 11 12 (v.p. 12), Tennis 10 11 12 (M
11), Panther Press 11 12, Student Council
10 11 12 (treas. 11), Track 10, Boys'
State 11



Ami McQueary

Melissa Medrano

Michelle Mele Choir 10,
Choralettes 11 12, DECA 11 12 (treas. 12)

Ryan Melton Honor Society 11
12 (pres. 12), Student Council 12, Tennis
10 11 12, JETS 10 11 12, Super Bowl
11 12 (Captain 11 12), Golf 10 11



Mandi Messinio Cheerleading
10 11 12 (Most Outstanding 10), Class
Council 11, Booster Club 10 11 12 (pres.
12), SADD 11 12, DECA 11, Spanish Club
11

Matthew Michels Soccer 10
11, Art Club 12

Robert Mikolajczyk

Russell Miller



Megan Mimnaugh Band 10,
Basketball Administrative Assistant 10,
Class Council 10, SADD 12, Varsity Club
12, Swimming 10

Deanna Mocha Bowling Club 12

Elizabeth Moehl

Brenda Moore Student Trainer
(Football 10 11 12, Wrestling 10 11,
Track 10 11), Choir 10 11, Chorale 12,
Varsity Club 10 11 12 (sec. 10, pres. 12),
DARE Role Model 12

SAYING GOODBYE

Emotions run high as seniors graduate

I can't wait to get out of this place! This is a common feeling among students, especially seniors in their last semester of high school. However, some students although excited to leave were also sad to realize what exactly it is they are leaving.

While going to school in the same building with the same people for six years you share a lot of unforgettable moments. It's hard to imagine not seeing some of the people that you've shared so much with again.

"I will miss all of my friends that are going away to school," said senior **Angela Mattozzi**. "A lot of those people I'll probably never see again."

Senior **Brian Sowinski** had mixed emotions about graduating.

"I feel happy to be done with high school but sad too because I'm going to miss all the people," said Sowinski. "I'm also a little nervous for college."

Anxious, excited, nervous, happy, sad are all words to describe all of the feelings seniors have about leaving high school and entering the unknown.

-Allison Gierman



Photo by Tim Faye

Waiting for the applause, senior **Steven Holzbach** finishes his trip down the dance line. At Turnabout, everyone got in two lines and took turns dancing through the tunnel.



photo by Gina Merschaga

*P*reparing to pose, seniors **Christina Jewett**, **Manda Spencer**, and **Amanda Smigla** adjust their caps. While taking the senior picture, students could check out their classmates in their caps and gowns.

SENIOR FAVORITES

<u>Movie</u> Titanic	<u>CD</u> "Yourself or Someone Like You"	<u>Class</u> Ceramics
<u>Actor</u> Leonardo DiCaprio	<u>Matchbox 20</u>	<u>Car</u> Mustang
<u>Actress</u> Meg Ryan	<u>Color</u> Blue	<u>Store</u> Aeropostale
<u>TV Show</u> The Simpsons	<u>Food</u> Pizza	<u>Book</u> Catcher in the Rye
<u>Band</u> Beatles/Pantera	<u>Restaurant</u> Fazolis	<u>Magazine</u> Seventeen
	<u>Teacher</u> Mr. McCoy	

Random survey, of 68 seniors



Paul Moran

Bethany Morris Softball 10 11
12, Basketball 10, DECA 11, SADD 11 12,
Varsity Club 11 12, Booster Club 11 12

Nicole Mowery

Fay Netos Reflector 10 11 12
(Photo Ed. 12), Band 10 11, Quill & Scroll
11 12, Tennis 10, Who's Who Among
American High School Students 10 11



Adam O'Brien Top Ten 10 11 12,
Honor Society 12, Art Club 11 12, St.
Joseph's Computer Day Programming
Competition 12 (Third Place)

Patricia Ortiz SADD 11, Choir 10,
Choralettes 11, Chorale 12, Art Club 12

Dennis Palucki Football 10 11
12 (MJ 10), Track 10 11 12 (MVP 11 12,
State Qualifier 11)

Jason Pantea DECA 12



Christopher Paplomatas

Phillip Patrick Swimming 10 11,
Griffith Stingray Swim Club 10

Randon Pewitt

Matthew Pollock



Jonathon Raddatz

Shane Radtke Football 10 11 12
(Captain 12, First Team All-State 11 12,
First Team All-Area 12, First Team All-
Conference 11 12), Track 11 12, Varsity
Club 10 11 12, Class Council 10 11 12,
Student Council 11, SADD 12

Eric Reed 4/26/80 - 4/17/98

Carrie Rex Manager/Trainer
(Football 11 12, Wrestling 10 11 12,
Track 11 12)



Rene Reyna Football 11, Basket-
ball 10 11 12, Track 10 11 12, Varsity
Club 10 11 12, Prom King

Erin Ritter Spanish Club 10, Soft-
ball 10

Mike Rivera

Efren Robles JETS 10 11 12

Christopher Rochefort

Felix Rosa

Candice Rossner Softball 10 12 (Captain 12), Pantherettes 11 12 (v.p. 12), Class Council 10 11 12 (v.p. 10 12), Honor Society 10 11 12, SADD 11 12 (v.p. 12), Booster Club 10 11 12

Agatha Ryzak



Frank Sanchez

Jennifer Scheeringa

Todd Schultz

Eric Schulz Soccer 10, Art Club 12



Jeffrey Schumacher

George Scott Swimming 10 11 12, Soccer 10 11 (M 10), Varsity Club 10 11 12, Who's Who in Sports (swimming 12)

Robert Segally

Cynthia Shebish

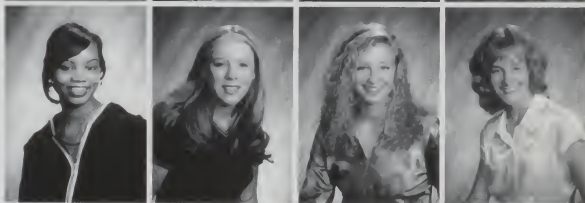


Katisha Shores

Nikki Simpson

Charlene Sims Band 10 11 12, Drama 11, Volleyball 10, Hoosier Girls' State 11, DARE Role Model 12, Who's Who Among American High School Students 11 12

Melissa Sims Band 10 11 12, Honor Society 10 11 12, DARE Role Model 12, Math Superbowl 12, JV Volleyball 10 (Captain), JV Softball 10



Chilton Slathar

Jessica Slawikowski

Amanda Smigla Choir 10 11,

Choralettes 12, Booster Club 10

Chad Smith





Stephanie Smith Swimming 10 11, Griffith Stingray's Swim Club 10 11, Art Club

Brian Sowinski Soccer 10 11, Track 10 11 12, Class Council 12

Manda Spencer Honor Society 10 11 12, Band 10 11 (Outstanding Band Member 10 11), Drama 10 11 12, Remnant 12 (historian 12), Academic Superbowl Fine Arts 10 11 (state finalist 10 11), Who's Who Among American High School Students 10 11

Jennifer Spiegel Cross Country 10 12 (Captain 12), Track 10 11 (BMA 11), Soccer 11, Class Council 10 11 12, Honor Society, DECA 11 12



Nicholas Spitz Football 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Baseball 10

William Spriggs

Laura Stanczak Art Club 11 12

Kristin Stitt



Angela Stout Cheerleading 10 11 12 (MI 10, MVC 12, assistant historian 10, historian 11, captain 12), Reflector 12, Class Council 10 11 12, SADD 10 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12, Homecoming Court 12, Choir 10 11

Casey Summers

Jennifer Surret Basketball 10 11 12 (BMA 10 11 12, Co-Captain 12, SADD 10 11 12 (secretary 12), Booster Club, DECA 11 12, Class Council 10 12, Cross Country 12

Shane Tinich Football 10 11 12 (Captain 12), Track 10 11 12, Wrestling 10, G.R.E.A.T. Role Model 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, JFCA All-State Linebacker



Joshua Todd Football 10 11 12 (Captain 12, First Team All-Conference DB 12), Baseball 10 12

Chris Tomcsi Chorale 11 12 (sec.), Drama 10 11 12 (Student Director), JETS 11 12, Panther Press 10 11 12 (asst. news editor 10, co-editor-in-chief 11 12, columnist 12), Honor Society 10 11 12, Class Council 10 12 (treas. 10)

Nathan Troxel

Jessie Vaca Remnant 11 12 (Pres. 12), Band 10 11 12 (hist. 12), Student Council 10 11



Amanda Vanek DECA 12 (hist. 12), Girls' Chorus 10 11, Choralettes 12, Girls' Basketball Manager 10

Johnny Vargo Football 10 11 12, Wrestling 10 11 12 (Sectional Champion 11 12, MI 12), Track 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, DARE Role Model

Michael Velasquez

Trisha Verbich Soccer 11 12 (MI 11, BMA, Co-Captain 12), Basketball 10 11, Choir 10, Class Council 11, Varsity Club 11 12

BEGINNING OF THE END

Seniors remember best of high school

As the year came to an end, the realization that they would not be passing through the halls of GHS any more caused the seniors to reflect upon the many memories they had made in high school.

"One of my favorite things was caroling at the nursing home," said senior **Jennifer Theodozio**. "We shouldn't forget our elders, they are an important part of our lives."

Each senior had something they would miss from high school.

"I am going to miss being with my friends and my teachers who have always believed in me," said senior **Deanna Mocha**. "I just hope that I am very successful as the teachers are here."

Each senior had friends that they would miss and always think about.

"I'm going to miss all of my friends and all of the people that I see all day in the school," said senior **Fran Costello**.

Seniors had memorable moments too.

"One of the best things was that all of the seniors were united in some kind of way," said senior **Jamie Bryant**.

Every senior had something very important to them that they would miss as they left the high school. They will carry them through college and for the rest of their lives.

-Erick Cunningham



photo by Bryan L. Smith

Writing, seniors **Christina Jewett** and **CariAnne Zimmerman** take down ideas for the next issue of *Panther Press*. This technique of *maestroing* was introduced by seniors **Jason Carroll** and **Chris Tomcisi** their sophomore year.



photo by Dennis Swender

Tying her apron, senior **Megan Minnaugh** prepares to do a lab in Chem-B. The lab was to teach the students about digestive juices and their pH levels.

CAMERA SHY:

Tim Adams	Nick Culp	Timothy O'Connell
Erica Badillo	Nick Deffenbaugh	Jeff Patton
Michael Bagwell	Tonya Hart	Roger Porter
Rick Baker	Steve Holzbach	Bennie Powell
Robert Benjamin	David Johnston	Ryan Skomac
Rachel Branson	Michelle Levy	Kim Sponaugle
Ibrahim Brewer	Richard Maddox	Eric Stanger
Jamie Bryant	James Maskovich	Jason Strayer
Iustin Cadle	Nick Maxberry	Mitchell Summers
Grace Conyers	Noel Nagy	Jennifer Theodozio
Spring Crawford	Glenn Novath	Christopher Tritz
		Bobby Vrehas
		Tanzania White



Amanda Vorisek
Kimberly Wachstetter
Barry Walker
Kimberly Webb



Wayne Wesley
Michael Westfall
Danielle Whitaker Reflector
 #0

Melissa White Reflector 10 11
 12 (Harvey Award winner 12), Girl's
 State 11, Honor Society 11 12, Tennis 10
 11 (MI 10), Class Council 11 12, National
 Quill & Scroll 11 12, Who's Who Among
 American High School Students 10 11 12



Lydia Whitehead Reflector 10
 11 12 (Co-Editor-in-Chief 12), Band 10
 11 12 (Drum Major 12), ISSMA 10 11 12
 (State 12), Honor Society 10 11 12, Ten-
 nis 10 11 (BMA 10), Who's Who Among
 American High School Students 11 12

Thomas Wilcox Football 10,
 Chorale 12, Spellbowl 11 12, Who's
 Who Among American High School
 Students 10 11 12

David Wilcoxson Honor Soci-
 ety 12, JETS 11 12 (Captain 12), Who's
 Who Among American High School
 Students 11 12

David Wilken DECA 12, DARE
 Role Model 12



Angela Wilson
Tabitha Wintczak
Brian Wlazlo
Matthew York



CariAnne Zimmerman

Choir 10 11 (pres. 11), Chorale 12, Swim-
 ming 10 11 12 (Captain 10), Panther Press
 12, Quill & Scroll 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Michael Zolcak Wrestling 10 11
 12, Tennis 10 11, DECA 11 12, Varsity
 Club 10 11 12

Noah Zondor Golf 10 11 12 (BMA
 11), Art Club 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11
 12

PUTTING IN THE TIME

Students talk about the pressure of work

High school is one of the last times a student can have all the free time. It sometimes can have the burden and pressures of a parent wanting them to get a job.

Junior **Steven Steinbach** said that it is hard to switch jobs because he has to roll around from location to location at the roller rink.

"It is hard being switched from station to station," he said. "I have to then learn that job."

One of the main reasons people get jobs is to get money to pay for the general needs in life.

"I needed money to pay for car insurance, so I got a job," said junior **Christine Woerner**.

Once there is income, some feel that there is never enough to pay for all their expenses.

"Now that I have a paycheck, I don't know where all the money has gone to," said junior **Kyle Plesniak**. "I would love to have more money."

The complications of either having too many hours or not enough money can put stress on a person. As long as a person remains calm he or she can then separate his or her priorities.

-Meagan Clarke



photo by Tony Tapa

Putting a basket onto E.T.'s bicycle, junior **Tennille Grasha** puts the finishing touches on the junior float for homecoming week. The juniors placed second in the competition. **Teresa Carstensen**, math, helped in the building process and was the junior class representative.



photo by Tony Tapa

Using his knowledge, junior **Matthew Flannery** takes a test for literature. The test was about Romanticism and poetry. **Judith Surovek** taught the course of English 11.



photo by Tony Tapa

In APC you can get your highest lifts on the wall of the weight room.

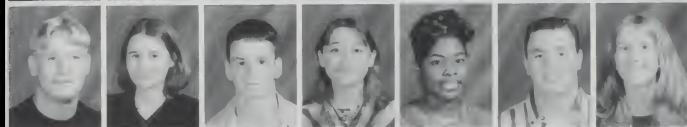
-junior **Christopher Hitt**



Rebecca Amos
Michael Andree
Jason Angel
Frank Ashenbaugh
Christopher Babbitt
Jason Bainbridge
Matthew Banke



Elizabeth Bautista
Jamaal Bell
Eric Bellamy
Michelle Bennett
Brian Betts
Robert Bilina
Jill Blount



Brent Bol
Gina Bombin
Jeremy Bratton
Jennifer Brown
Lakesha Brown
Nicholas Brownfield
Stacy Buckner



Jeremy Buzea
David Carnahan
Meagan Clarke
Adam Creston
Anthony Cruse
John Curtis
Jennifer Dalach



Benjamin DeJesús
Justin Dimos
Nikolina Dimovski
Darla Domsic
Joan Doppler
Shaun Doyle
Paul Dudley



Traci Duncan
Katherine Eaton
Sarah Fech
Christina Federenko
Joshua Fisher
Matthew Flannery
Ian Flores



Kristy Florey
Kristin Foust
Jamie Foy
Patrick Fuentes
Heather Galliher
John Gallas
Marisa Garibay



Matthew Gear
Brian Gilbert
Robert Gillespie
William Gomez
11/21/80 2/21/98
Tennille Grasha
Jennifer Griffin
Karl Grimmer

Sara Grudzien
Magdalena Guerra
Joshua Hammers
Carrie Hanchar
Amy Harnew
Amber Hecht
Daniel Helfen



Leeann Henricks
Christopher Hitt
Joseph Homoky
Laura Huber
Nicole Huber
Jennifer Huesken
Vanessa Hughes



Tenesha Jackson
Aaron Jansen
Sarah Jansen
Courtney Johnson
Monique Jones
Sarah Kagel
Todd Kapciak



Amanda Kasper
Jemai Kennedy
Sarah Kerr
Clinton Konopasek
Daniel Kovera
Angela Kozup
Angela Krsak



Jamie Kunkemoeller
Jodie Kunkemoeller
Margaret Kurzynska
Christian Laird
Carrie Lamb
Jennifer Lang
Paul Larson



Steven Laurinas
Joseph Laviolette
Manuel Longoria
David Lopez
Nina Lopez
Chad Lukas
Erick Maciszak



Robert Malo
Amanda Marcus
Joshua Martin
Stephanie Martin
Tamara Martin
Gabriel Mauch
Melissa McCarley



Cynthia McFadden
John Mehok
Gina Menchaca
Joshua Michalak
Jessica Michels
Lori Mills
Michael Moran



BUILDING A DREAM

Juniors plan their fantasy house

A white picket fence around a three story house with a wrap-around porch might sound like someone's standard fairy-tale dream house. As students approach their senior year they start to plan their future and all the details in it.

"I want a big, but yet not gaudy house," said junior **Jill Talabay**. "I want the house with the white picket fence."

Imagining a house is a different experience for everyone. Some people don't place a lot of importance on the house itself, but where the house is located.

"I want a house which is located on acres of land," said junior **Brandon Shropshire**. "The size of the house isn't important."

Some students haven't placed an importance on their future house.

"I haven't given much thought to what my house would look like," said junior **Justin Dimos**. "I still need to figure out what occupation I want to go into."

While one person's house is a mansion and another is a one story house, students share a common interest: that is to accomplish their dreams.

-Meagan Clarke



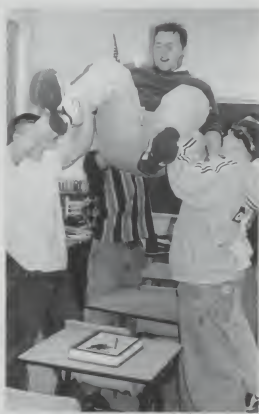
Viewing the computer, junior **Christopher Troksa** looks over his work for computer applications I. Troksa was working on a project which required him to do a spreadsheet.



photo by Dennis Swender

In computer applications, we plan a pretend trip and make all the details needed.

-junior **Ian Wotkun**



Raising the roof, juniors **Joseph Warrick**, **Robert Malo**, and **Chad Lukas** lift up junior **Michael Andre** by concentration. **Daniel McCoy**, history, and other students wondered if you could concentrate on raising a person up without straining yourself.

Talking with a local photographer, junior Jason O'Donnell takes some time out from getting the crowd pumped up. O'Donnell wore a cape and painted his face for games, and was given the name "G-man" by his friends.

Looking up a word in the dictionary, junior Angela Krsak tries to finish up her vocabulary worksheets for beginning composition. The class had time to finish their vocabulary after finishing an essay in the writing lab.

photo by Dennis Schuster



Thomas Morosin
Christopher Mulligan
Keirstin Nagy
Erik Negrete
Michelle Nicholls
Rachael Nichols
Jocel Nieto



Jarrad Novath
Jason Nowlin
Jason O'Donnell
Audel Ocegüera
Jill Palmer
Anthony Papa
Eric Parsons



P LANNING EARLY

Juniors get a head start on college prep

Receiving junk mail, getting out of school to go visit colleges, and taking SAT's can all be familiar sounds to some of the junior class because there are some students that decide to start their future planning a little early.

"I get mail from colleges every day, and I've looked into the Art and Architecture programs at BSU," said junior **Marisa Garibay**. "I may take summer courses at Ball State."

Many students have at least set goals to accomplish their senior years, from preparing for SAT's by taking specialized courses to sending information to their college of choice.

"I've gotten brochures and other information from colleges that have the classes I want to take," said junior **Brandon Shropshire**. "I think you should start planning early so you don't get swamped your senior year."

Overall, many juniors agreed that this was a good time to start planning for their senior year, college and for their futures.

-Nicole Voges

Photo by Jeffery Nichols



Taking a leap, juniors **Jill Blount**, **Tennille Grasha** and **Jemai Kennedy** jump over some of their fellow juniors during the leapfrog contest. Leapfrog, along with the guy cheerleading contest and the float building, were won by the juniors.



Michelle Paul
Cassandra Paul
Justin Payne
William Pewitt
Regina Phelps
Luke Pierson
Christopher Pike



Suzanne Pikus
Leslie Piszczek
Kyle Plesniak
Nichole Ploskonka
Jennean Pondo

GETTING SOME ZZZS

Juniors share their sleep habits

Finally the end of the day, night comes and while some students go for a full night's rest, others prefer to be night owls. Some students take a night of full rest to prepare them for the big test, while others cram all night and catch some Zs in first hour.

"I like to get a good night's sleep before school," said junior Kelly Schoeffel, "I feel more prepared to face the day."

While getting the proper amount of sleep may work for some, others like to stay up late.

"On nights when I work, I like to relax and stay up 'til at least 1 a.m.," said junior Emily Worosz. "It's sometimes the only time I get some down time."

Whether staying up late or sleeping for eight hours was how students spent their night, they all got up and made it to school.

-Tom Morosin



photo by Tony Capa

Ring on the showers, junior Jim Terpstra pours water onto sophomore Michael Reyna. Sophomore Jason Leбата attempts to stop Terpstra. The incident occurred on the register at their lunch.



photo by Tony Capa



photo by Ray Nelson

Vanessa [Hooper] would attend every game to give me support.

-junior Patrick Fuentes

Supporting the spirit, junior Jason O'Donnell cheers for the girls at their sectional game. O'Donnell dressed up in different outfits for foot ball and basketball games. O'Donnell often wore his referee shirt at the boys' and girls' basketball games.



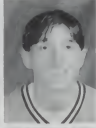
Danyel Porter
Laura Purger
William Race
Sara Raduski
Nathan Ramsey
Jennifer Ranta
Christopher Ray



Brandon Reba
Jennifer Redar
Andrea Reed
Kevin Riese
Patrick Riordan
Nakiya Robinson
Brandy Rockwell



Brian Rodriguez
Chris Romero
Jacqueline Rousseau
James Royal
Dale Rudzinski
Emily Rutledge
Dorothy Ryzak



Daniel Santare
Ryan Sarver
Robin Satterlee
Amber Scartozzi
April Scartozzi
David Schaffenberger
Dayna Scheeringa



Kelly Schoeffel
Matthew Schroeder
Joe Schultz
Todd Schultz
Justin Seat
Joshua Sherbit
Melisa Smilowski



Holly Smolinski
Robert Sochacki
Jonathan Soverly
Makeda Spencer
Jamie Sponaugle
John Spriggs
Tammy Spudic



Melissa Steapleton
Kevin Steiber
Steven Steinbach
Lena Steinhubel
Colleen Strauch
Mitch Summers
Fiah Sweet



Dennis Swender
Shannon Swope
Jill Talabay
Sherrona Taylor
Jim Terpstra
William Torres
Ryan Towasnicki

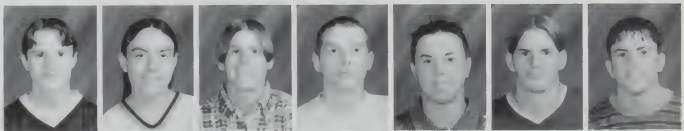
Sharing her skills, junior **Jennifer Vazonis** visits the grade schools. For child development they attended local grade schools and visited with the kids. In child development they learned what to expect when they had children of their own.

Showing his moves, junior **Patrick Fuentes** dances at the annual junior-senior prom. Fuentes danced in a circle while everyone cheered him on. The queen and king were Nicole Huber and Jeremy Buzea.

Photo by Dennis Stronker



Bryan Treece
Joshua Tristan
Christopher Troksa
Anthony Trzupek
Timothy Turkowski
Larry Turner
John Vanek



Jennifer Vazonis
Jeffrey Vessell
Nicole Voges
Tiffany Vuletich
Suzanne Wargo
Joseph Warrick
Bridgette Wayo



William Werner
Kristen Wilczynski
Elizabeth Wilson
Stephanie Winebrenner
Christine Woerner
Jared Wojcik
Emily Worosz



Amy Worth
Ian Wotkun
Laura Zagrocki
Kelly Zarndt
Lindsay Zimmerman
Mary Zubrenic



P EEEVED OFF

Juniors tell what makes them insane

"Close minded people that don't give others a chance," said **Jill Palmer**.

"People that drive extremely slow in the left lane on the highway," said **Amy Harnew**.

"When they take taxes out of my paycheck to pay for other people's children," said **Jennifer Huesken**.

"Boyfriends that won't let you see your friends and feel the need to control you," said **Amy Worth**.



photo by Tav Neton

Getting prepared for the game, junior **Ian Flores** plays catch with senior **Steven Holzbach**. The team warms up before each game so they are prepared for their games.



photo by Tim Jackson

Reading her book, junior **Suzanne Wargo** attends Beiriger to read a story to the younger children. By taking child development, the course demanded that you create a storybook by using your imagination.

CAMERA SHY:

Justin Brilmyer
Eddie Covarrubias
Timothy Duke
Brian Durall
Kent Elliot
Jimmy Frazier
Scott Glerman

James Henderson
Ryan Hill
Jonathan Huff
Matty Jabkowski
Eric Laczi
Travis Logan
David Mazzocco
Jeremy McCarley
Robert McElmurry

Jeffrey Nowlin
Eric Sarkady
Katy Schmell
Brandon Shropshire
Karen Tucker
Michael Tuzar
Nick Ullrich
Anthony Washick
Erica Wright

IT'S A GOOD IDEA

Sophomores get help for second time testing

ISTEPs aren't easy for anyone, but sophomores that failed had a chance to get help in the new ISTEP Remediation class. This program was started right before second semester for both English and math programs.

Many students and teachers thought that opening a program for those students that failed part of the ISTEP test was a good idea.

"I think this program helps those students who take it seriously," said **Kathy Planer**, special education teacher. "Just as in any other class, a student must put forth the effort to listen to explanations and concentrate on the class work in order for them to get the most out of the class."

With the start of this program students are able to prepare themselves for taking the ISTEP for the second time.

"It was a good idea to start this program because there are kids who don't know what they are doing and this class is teaching them what to do," said sophomore **Christopher Otto**.

All students that failed the ISTEP test have help now to pass the ISTEP test.

"I think that this program was very helpful," said sophomore **Christina Lopez**, "but I think that every kid should have the opportunity to have this class prior to the ISTEP so that he or she will pass the first time around." -*Erick Cunningham*



photo by Karl Schwann

Grooving to the music, sophomores Diana Ballas, Adam Collins, Jason Tomsci, Christina Govert, Matt Thon, and Lara Gonzalez all dance together at the annual Turnabout dance. Turnabout is sponsored by the sophomore class.



photo by Port Page



photo by Steve Taylor

I enjoyed the project for DECA, because I like construction.

-sophomore Allen Slawikowski

Hopping for a victory, sophomore **Jessica Santos** leads the sophomore team in the game of leap-frog. This type of competition and many others were played with seniors, juniors, and sophomores during Activities night.



Samantha Adame
Melissa Adams
Adrianna Aguilar
Salvador Aguilar
Elizabeth Ahlamer
Kyle Alexander
Aaron Aloia



Victoria Anderson
Sarah Bacan
Hayley Baccino
Michelle Bagwell
Michael Baker
Tammy Baker
Michael Bakker



Dianna Ballas
Joshua Banning
Colin Banta
Lindsay Beigle
Mary Belcher
David Beshears
Lauren Biehl



Paul Blahunka
Derek Blythe
Jaci Bolsega
James Braden
Raymond Brines
Jacqueline Brink
Christopher Brookhart



Rose Bryant
Pamela Campbell
Jeffrey Carpenter
Katina Chapa
Lindsay Chapa
Tabitha Chavez
Paul Chidichimo



Emily Coddington
David Colby
Adam Collins
Kristen Collins
Beth Connell
Gregory Cooper
Nicholas Crawford



Mike Cservenak
Crystal Cullum
Michelle Cuneo
Erick Cunningham
Mira Damjanovic
Troy Damron
Lauren Davis



Henry Devries
Jacqueline Deyoung
LeRine Dixon
Bonnie Eddy
Jessica Everhart
Metai Ezell
Justin Falk

Brandon Fane
Amber Farr
Dana Figurski
Trisha Fleishman
Franco Flores
Steven Flutka
Abigail Forbes



Kerry Gass
Allison Gatlin
Dometrios Georgis
Joseph Gerard
Erin Gervais
Carrie Giltmier
Lara Gonzalez



Christina Govert
Amanda Grcevich
James Greco
Daniel Haake
Matthew Hafner
John Hanson
Michael Harnew



Melissa Hart
Nicole Hart
Lisa Hartman
Arianna Hecht
Tammy Heft
Keith Henman
Anthony Hernandez



Chris Hill
Shelly Hively
Vanessa Hooper
Claire Hudacin
Jeff Hughes
Susan Huss
Gabriel Irizarry



Jacob Johnson
Julie Jordan
Nicolas Jovanovich
Brian Kawczynski
Buddy Keelen
Amie Kielbasa
Kara Kmiec

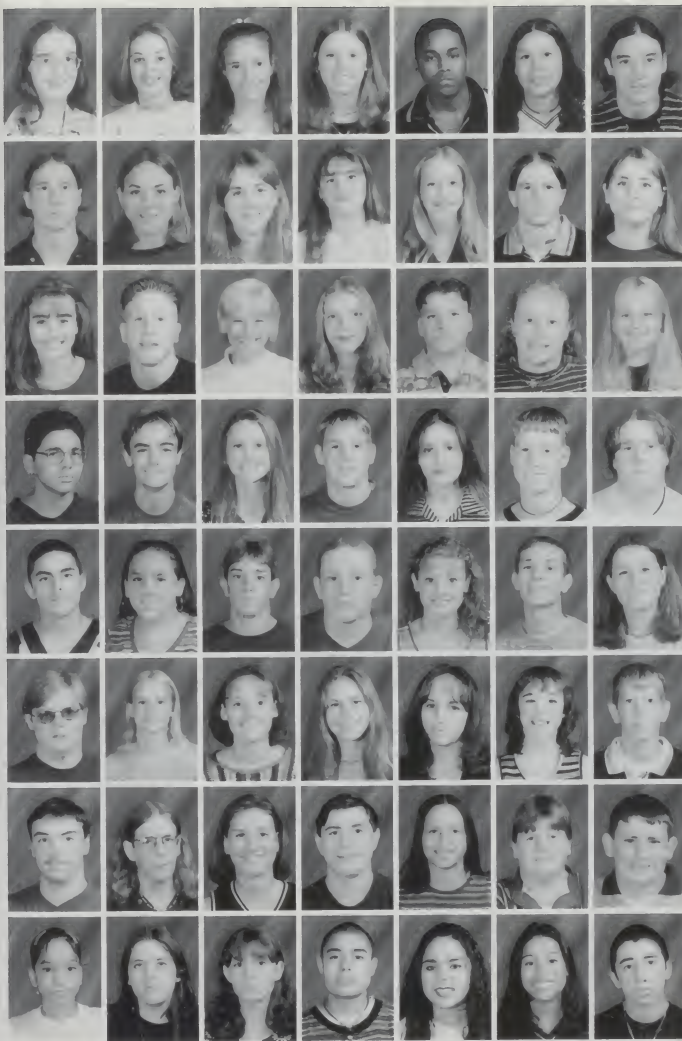


Kandis Knight
Jessica Koepp
Lisa Koepp
Kyle Konopasek
Kyle Krause
Timmy Krebs
Timothy Kukuch



Carrie LaBuda
Kathryn LaFayette
Jacob Laird
Bobby Lassiter
Chuck Lau
William Lavolette
Michael Leal





Sara LeCounte
Christina Lopez
Kelly Loudenber
Laura Loudenber
Jeremy Luter
Michelle Mackey
George Maddox

Timothy Malo
Corrie Mantis
Kathryn Mauch
Jennifer McQueary
Anne Medsker
Shawn Medsker
Angela Mele

Lora Melton
Gerard Mesman
Sarah Meyer
Caryn Miller
Robert Miller
Heather Mladenik
Kathryn Mochon

Brian Moisant
David Moore
Madelyn Moore
Blake Morris
Melissa Moss
Everett Mull
Patrick Mulligan

Leonardo Muro
Salina Muro
Matt Najar
Justin Newell
Julie Newman
Ryan O'Keeffe
Kristen Oros

Christopher Otto
Angela Parent
Elaine Parker
Amanda Paul
Jessica Pavich
Melissa Petersen
Jared Pierson

Eric Polgar
Nathan Pollock
Nicole Popovich
Anthony Pruitt
Samantha Quintero
Joshua Rainford
Cory Rakes

Kathy Reed
Brandice Reesman
Crista Renouard
Michael Revna
Heather Rivera
Nancy Robles
Ramon Rocha

JaQueta Rogers
Nicole Romesburg
Danielle Rossman
Matthew Rusch
Melissa Ryan
Eric Salezynski
Jessica Santos



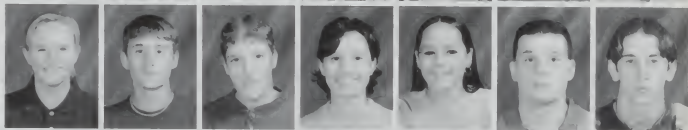
Stacey Schafer
Julie Scheeringa
Kelli Schoon
Amber Schoonover
Eric Scott
Shannon Sheffield
Matthew Sherry



Craig Sims
Pamela Sims
Lisa Skura
Allen Slawikowski
Brandon Smelko
Brooks Smith
Caleb Smith



Reina Smith
Ryan Stage
David Stamper
Andjela Subotic
Rachel Sweet
Lawrence Swentzel
Nicholas Taylor



Matthew Terhorst
Alecia Terrell
Falon Terrell
Amy Theodozio
Matthew Thon
Jason Tomcsi
Shauna Tulba



Meghan Tzitz
Erin Ullrich
Tina Varady
Collen Vehey
Marissa Villasenor
Mirjana Vlahovic
Lindsay Vrane



Fredrick Walczack
Brandon Walker
Andrea Wartman
Adam Wartsbaugh
Kristina Watts
Tani Werner
Cassandra White



Brianne Wilsbach
Kevin Wlazlo
Nicole Wolfe
Laura Worley
Shawn Zolcak



F OOL'S FEVER

Sophomores remember embarrassing moments

"I took a very bad Turnabout picture," said Mike Cervenak. "It almost looks like I am groping my date."

"Once I fell asleep in Ms. [Luann] Morgan's world history class and I started to snore," said Christopher Otto.

"I was walking up the stairs by the auditorium, and I was really tired, so I wasn't paying attention to what I was doing. I missed a stair and fell," said Kathryn Mochon. "The guy behind me just died laughing which made me laugh even harder than I was."

"I was walking down the stairs with a pair of high heels on and I didn't lift my foot up and I tripped and fell down the stairs," said Stacey Schafer.



photo by Tim Papa

Waiting to try some of sophomore Lindsay Beagle's cookies, sophomore Keith Henman participates in an Elizabethan Feast. This feast was held after the English classes read William Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar*.



photo by Tony Page

Getting dragged across the football field, the sophomore girls evaluate their strength in a game of tug-of-war. The sophomores, once again, managed to take last place.

CAMERA SHY:

Brian Abright
Aaron Anderson
Angela Arcella
Michal Ballard
Matthew Bulek
Jerome Branson
Heather Cope
Eric Cordell
Raymond Cornett
Boris Damjanovic
John Degard
Wanda Lasker
Brandon Ham
Dawn Lidoes
Gillian Forsythe
Ashley Fox
Rodrigue (name)
Joshua Handley
Jesse Hinderberg

Brandon Hinderberg
Khalid Issa
Shameka Jackson
Jason Echols
Christina Johnson
Paul Morris
Bret Matthews
Ryan Moun
Trish Neiswanger
Michael Powers
Erika Riddick
Cecilia Riddick
Ramon Samuels
Erica Santana
Nathan Shatt
Tim Sizer
Kevin Saba
Nicholas Sway
Andrew Sizer

Pat Troughton
Jessica Wilcox

Brandon Addison
Dustin Albee
Kelly Albee
Jason Alexander
Angelina Alvarez
Mark Amos
Valerie Anderson



Carey Baccino
James Baggarly
Morgan Bailey
William Barriga
Peter Bathurst
Stephanie Beigle
Kenny Bellamy



Selena Bermudez
Joseph Bertucci
Daniel Biehl
Brett Bierman
Sarah Blanchard
Kurt Blount
Gregory Bowers



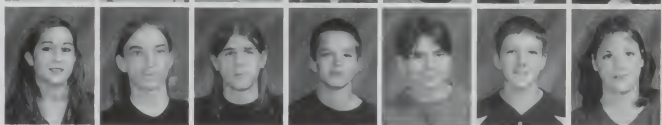
Robert Bradford
Marc Brady
Alison Bridegroom
Stephanie Bridegroom
Alda Brooks
Brandon Bruce
Jeremy Brzycki



Christy Bumbales
Holly Burgess
Phillip Cadle
Matt Calhoun
Matthew Callender
Kevin Cap
Lisa Carroll



Cory Cavazos
Randy Cheffer
Jeremiah Cogdill
Jeffrey Cook
Michael Cullum
Jason Cunningham
Michelle Cutka



Paul Dalach
Kenneth Darnell
Elizabeth Dash
Craig Decker
Danielle Degand
Cynthia Delauro
Philip Demopoulos



Josephine Dennis
Kyle Domazet
Jeff Doppler
Stacy Dugard
Robert Dumigan
Kristin Duncan
Jason Fischer



MAKING THE RULES

Students imagine being the principal

eing in charge is always exciting no matter how old a person is. Some freshmen decided what rules they would alter if they were named the principal.

"I wouldn't have interims for freshmen," said freshman Crystal Nelson. "It is like getting a report card every four weeks."

Rules that were changed this year stirred up some emotions. Without backpacks the hallways weren't as crowded, but the downfall was that the students weren't as prompt. Freshman Cynthia DeLauro said she would get rid of the backpack rule.

"Teachers are strict on tardies," said DeLauro, "but if we don't have backpacks, how are we supposed to make it from the junior high to the high school."

There are little reminders in the hallway that inform kids of what they should and shouldn't do. Freshman Kenny Bellamy said the signs on the ceiling of the junior high are telling people how to behave, but aren't necessary.

Although some freshmen would have changed the rules if they were principal, they had to follow them or pay the price.

-Meagan Clarke



photo by Kelly Schubert

Taking notes for class, freshman Gregory Bowers reviews for advanced English. They review by doing questions at the end of the chapter. Marilyn Young, English, teaches the freshman enriched class, which is a year long course.



photo by Kelly Papa

I am late for biology because of my locker not opening.

-freshman Christy Bumbales



photo by Kelly Papa

Meeting his friend, senior Brian Farrenkopf waits for freshman Courtney Shropshire. Farrenkopf gave Shropshire a ride home from school every day.

Jason Fisk
Matthew Fliter
Mark Forster
Kimberly Frederick
Sarah Fry
Melissa Gaddini
Michelle Gaddini



Juliann Gajewski
Daniel Gardner
Benjamin Garland
Erica Garnett
Nikki Geffert
Kelly Gerdes
Omar Gonzalez



Edward Gootee
Christopher Gordon
Tina Gordon
Mark Govert
Sarah Govert
Abigail Greco
Justin Grimmer



David Gutowsky
Elizabeth Guzman
David Haldi
Amanda Hall
Javan Hamer
Shannon Hammers
Sarah Handley



Jessica Harper
Brandi Harveth
Elisabeth Helfen
Kate Higginbotham
Steven Homoky
Ryan Horn
Daniel Housinger



Timothy Hubbard
Carrie Hutchinson
Ahmed Issa
Robert Jabkowski
Regina Jasaitis
John Jensen
Robert Jensen

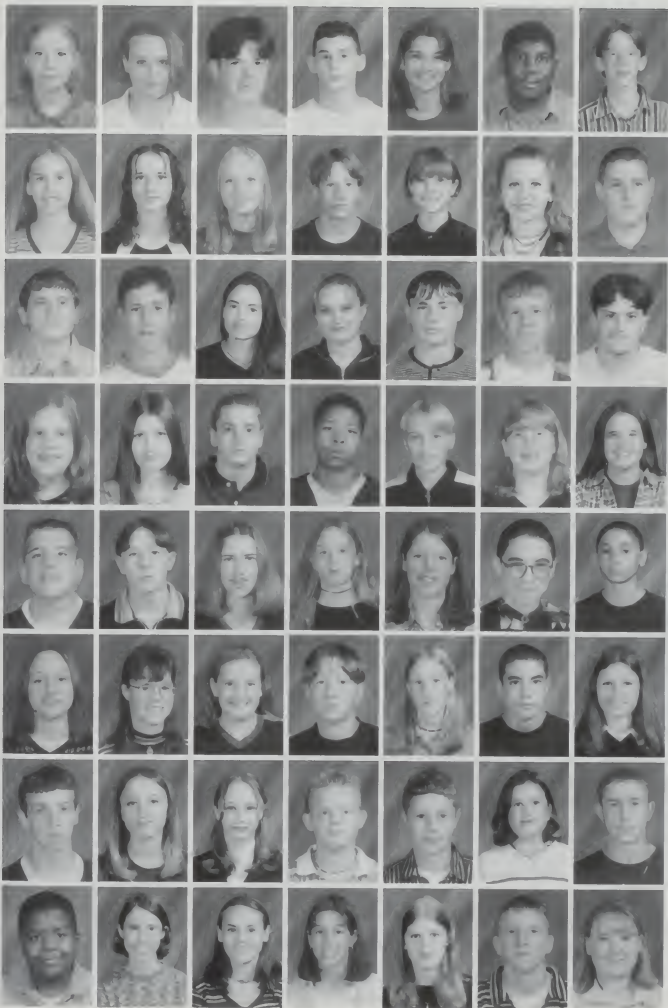


Jack Johnson
Ronnie Johnson
Imaru Jones
Michael Jones
Efriam Juarez
Jason Kane
Stacie Kapciak



Nicolas Kasbohm
Tiffany Kender
William Kintz
Eric Kmet
Craig Kovera
Christopher Kronland
Jennifer Laffoon





Ianya Lenker
Jill Lewandowski
Matthew Lewis
Matthew Lira
Amanda Lopez
Calvin Loving
Jason Lundquist

Kelly Mann
Lindsey Mantis
Jennifer Marinos
Kyle Massa
Cristen Mattozzi
Nicole Matusz
Adam McCarter

Justin McDonald
Ryan McElmury
Andrea Melendez
Deanna Mendez
Jakub Mielnicki
Elliott Miller
Tom Miller

Tracy Miller
Katey Milligan
Daniel Mills
Derrick Montgomery
Joshua Moon
Jodie Musgrove
Theresa Nagel

Scott Negrete
Michael Nelleman
Crystal Nelson
Michelle Newland
Amanda Nichols
Vincent Ortiz
Brian Osika

Keri Ostland
Courtney Ostrowski
Sara Palmer
Christopher Peacock
Candice Peters
William Petersen
Carrie Petroski

Shawn Pewitt
Amber Piekarczyk
Christina Pierce
Richard Piszczek
Nicholas Planer
Michelle Popovich
Anthony Potesta

Jonathan Powell
Lindsey Powers
Amber Price
Julie Purgert
Deborah Race
Tyler Radtke
Shannon Ray

ACES ON A ROLL

Freshman Aces experience culture

If you have never heard of the Aces program, then you don't know about this group of talented students. Aces is a program for seventh, eighth, and ninth graders that have been tested to be gifted and talented. A test is given in the sixth grade and those who pass are enrolled into the Aces program.

This year the freshman Aces went to plays and musicals including *Romeo and Juliet* and *Phantom of the Opera*.

"All students should experience the educational things that are outside of the classroom," said **Lawrene Hawthorne**, librarian, and freshmen Aces sponsor.

Hawthorne helped the kids by taking responsibility of the freshmen Aces program.

"Ms. Hawthorne is always pushing us towards finding educational facts in normal every day things," said freshman **John Jensen**.

The freshman Aces program went to many activities throughout the year. Besides going to plays they also went to ethnic restaurants throughout Chicago.

—*Frick Cunningham*

Freshmen **Brett Bierman**, **Sarah Handley**, and **Breanne Steagall** prepare the freshmen class's float for the Homecoming parade. **Lisa Carroll** volunteered to use her garage as a storage place for the freshmen float.

Turning in her permission slip for Turnabout freshman **Nikki Geffert** waits after school until **Mr. Smith** signs her slip. This was the first year the freshmen were able to go to Turnabout with other freshmen.

photo by Fay Nietos



photo by Tony Papa

Vincent Repasi
Daniel Riordan
Marie Ritchey
Bret Rocchietti
Chris Rousseau
Mario Ruff
Julie Rutledge



Selena Saldana
Sara Saltanovitz
Shauna Santare
Brandy Scartazzi
Daniela Scheeringa
David Scheeringa
William Schmitt





Daniel Schoon
 Kathryn Schoon
 Jason Schultz
 Steven Schultz
 Jared Scott
 Craig Seat
 Victor Sendejas



Angela Serrato
 Rachel Sferruzza
 Kevin Shacklett
 John Shores
 Cortney Shropshire
 Justin Sidor
 Jennifer Sims



Michael Sims
 Jordan Smith
 Rebecca Smith
 Veronica Solis
 Brad Sowinski
 Tenishia Spires
 Breanne Steagall



Kellie Sternberg
 Adam Stout
 Jordan Strawder
 Jamie Sullivan
 Joshua Swentzel
 Nick Szany
 Tashaya Taylor



Joshua Teague
 Timothy Thirion
 Rachel Thomas
 Jessica Thompson
 Michael Tomaszewski
 Kristina Toth
 Jillian Tsirtsis



Kathleen Vanek
 Angel Velez
 Lea Vogel
 Tammy Wachowski
 Janis Walenkiewicz
 Amy Walker
 David Wesolowski



Malinda Whitaker
 Lance White
 Crystal Wilcox
 Jerome Williams
 Jocelyn Williams
 Ashley Wilson
 James Wiszowaty



Christopher Woodall
 Joshua York
 Tom Zeller
 Hannah Zemke

AMERA SHY:

Stephanie Bilski
 Patrick Butler
 Allen Johnson
 Mike McKinney
 Kenneth Moss
 Kenneth Moss
 Jeffery Motyka
 Danielle Peters
 Michelle Previtt
 Adam Stitt

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Teachers reminisce about old times

Most students who enter high school are counting down the days or even minutes till they graduate and start their careers. Some students, though, decided that they wanted to come back to the school that so many others can't wait to leave.

"I attended school at Griffith, so when I returned I had many friends to come back to," said **James Graff**, art.

Younger teachers still can't break their old habits.

"I knew Mr. Hastings when I went here, I still can't call him by his first name," said **Daniel McCoy**, U.S. History/Sociology. "It feels disrespectful."

Students today feel that they can't connect with teachers because of the age gap. They think times have changed drastically when in reality, many things are still the same.

"The punishments were the same as they are now. If you got in trouble you were sent to the office," said **Martha Davis**, Chemistry/Biology.

Surrounded by the familiar memories of the past, these teachers eagerly await the different unexpected experiences that will shape their career. —*Meagan Clarke*



photo by Larry Titak

*S*chool Board- Front row: Tom Schatzman, Sara Cundiff, Connie Textor, Mike Dobosz. Back row: Richard Anderson, John Galambos, Bill Gall, Carl Konopasek, Jim Reymore.



photo by Kay Textor

*I look in the hallways
and I see the clothing
style coming back.*

—*Kay Orzechowicz,
1981.*



photo by Textor, 1990/2000

*P*rojecting the notes, **Lisa Grubbs**, teaches the students about the human body. This is her second year teaching Biology. Grubbs graduated from Griffith in 1990.



John Aldrin
Kathy Allard
Jim Anderson
Nancy Ashton
Kim Beach
Sandra Beahm
Kathleen Blount



Phyllis Bridwell
Carolyn Brown
Susan Brown
Darryl Carstensen
Teresa Carstensen
Irma Coddington
Michael Cornwell



Nick Costello
Samuel Cox
Terry Crowe
Martha Davis
Barbara Deleget
Gordon Dilling
Ronald Divjak



Jackie Durall
Charles Emlund
Scott Fech
Charlotte Fedorchak
Timothy Foss
Robert Gass
Iona Glassford



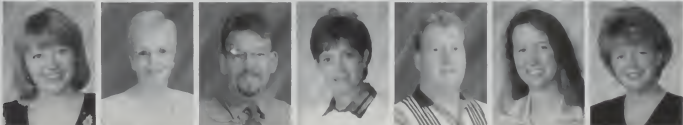
James Graff
Lisa Grubbs
Chuck Hachler
Carol Hacker
Ed Hanko
Jackie Hanson
Robert Hastings



Lawrene Hawthorne
Lynn Heller
Jean Herd
Cari Hooper
Thom Howell
Todd Iwema
Julie Jachimczak



Donald Joson
Margie Keithley
Bernice Koby
Dick Koval
Margaret Lane
Mary Ann Lopez
Dale Megquire



Katherine Martinez
Margaret McNabney
Alan Magiera
Nicole Miklusak
Keith Mitchell
Luann Morgan
Kay Orzechowicz

Sketching a picture, junior **Jamie Foy** develops her drawing skills as **Daniel McCoy**, history, and juniors **Robert Malo**, and **Timothy Duke** watch. "We had just got done doing our notes," said McCoy. "Jamie then decided to draw us a picture."

Dressing to impress, **Irma Coddington**, Spanish and sophomore **Arianna Hecht** dress up for costume day of spirit week. Coddington was sporting her look in fatigues, while Hecht was wearing her Mexican outfit. Coddington taught Spanish II, III, and IV.

photo by Tony Papa



photo by Dennis Swender



Diane Ott
Larry Parker
Susan Patrick
James Pickett
Steven Prather
Brenda Price
Russ Radtke



Margaret Rice
Lynn Roades
Terry Ruhs
Dawn Rzonca
Rita Sainato
Eric Schilling
Bob Segally



Keith Shorb
Wayne Slegel
James Smith
Veronica Smith
Cynthia Spejewski
Marlene Starcevich
Judith Surovek



Mark Swanson
Theresa Swetky
Brian Tomson
Linda Trout
Sheila Vaclavik
Kim Vessel
Linda Villarreal



SCHOOL DAZE

Remembering unforgettable moments

"Mr. (Daniel) McCoy, history, did his sprinkler dance and would spin around in circles," said junior **Melissa Steapleton**.

"Joking around, I gave a student one of Ibid's dog bones," said **Judith Surovek**, English. "The student actually ate it."

"In word processing I, Mr. (Wayne) Price, [business], would light orange peels on fire," said senior **Michelle Blessing**. "We didn't believe that it would blow up."

"Students would go to talk to their friends and would tip over in their chairs," said **Richard Koval**, business.



Lynda Waldron
Travis Walls
Cathy Wasielewski
Judy Watson
Nancy Weaver
Don Whittemore
Amy Wilhite



Robert Witt
Jan VanderWaal
Marilyn Young

CAMERA SHY:

Ruth Carmichael
Rebecca Cherven
Jeff Kubaszyk
Daniel McCoy
Scott Murray

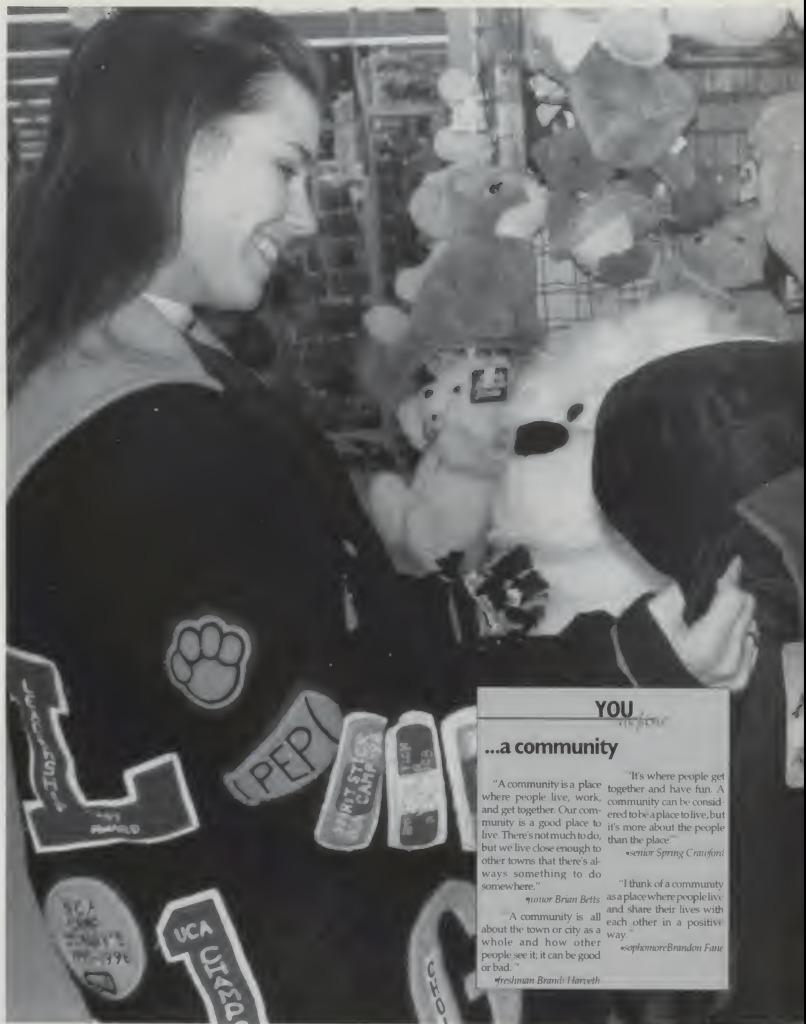
Herb Noonan
Joyce Petska
Bill Platt
Timothy Powers
Wayne Price

David Smith
Sharon Smith
Nancy Stout
Thomas Wells



PHOTO BY KATHY SCHWARTZ

Joking around, **Scott Fech**, foreign language makes fun of **Theresa Swetky**, English. This was their first year teaching here. Fech participated in plays and gave his students extra credit if they attended one of them.



YOU

...a community

"A community is a place where people live, work, and get together. Our community is a good place to live. There's not much to do, but we live close enough to other towns that there's always something to do somewhere."

—Junior Brian Betts

A community is all about the town or city as a whole and how other people see it; it can be good or bad."

—Freshman Brandi Harveth

"It's where people get together and have fun. A community can be considered to be a place to live, but it's more about the people than the place."


—Senior Spring Crumford

"I think of a community as a place where people live and share their lives with each other in a positive way."

—Sophomore Brandon Fane

the definition of a community

community n. a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government. As members of the community, students made use of all the businesses in the area. They could eat at Boz's Hot Dogs, Villa Pizza, Dave & Lee's Restaurant, or Bridges' Scoreboard in downtown Griffith, or go to Zorba's Restaurant or visit one of the local Dairy Queens for a bite to eat. After a quick haircut from Hair Fashions by Charles, many seniors took their senior pictures at Titak Photography in Schererville and got their class rings at Griffith Jewelers. Programs for music, drama, and other events in the auditorium were usually printed by Ink Spot Printing and banking could be accomplished at Sand Ridge Bank of Highland, Bank of Calumet or Hobart Federal Savings in Griffith. All of these and many other local businesses were of some use to students and helped to further expand the definition of a community.



DO YOU BETTER SHOP AROUND

Senior Karen Jensen looks over the merchandise while shopping for a Christmas gift at Walmart. "I was just looking around for any cute Christmas gifts for my friends," said Jensen.

TOM*Wilson*

Our little thrill seeker, who always loved life to its fullest. We are very proud of you and we will always be. Remember the good times we had. We will always cherish those moments.

Love Always,
Mom, Dad, Chris, Tina, Crystal,
and Spuds

**ANDY***Adams*

Andy,

You are an exceptional joy and exceptional guy. Good luck at Purdue. We have no doubt that you will be successful at whatever you choose.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ryan

**MATT***McIntosh*

Matt,

We are very proud of the young man you've become. You are a fine example of what an Eagle Scout should be. We wish you success as you start college.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Jessie, and Danny

P.S. Get a Job!!

**RYAN***Adams*

Congratulations to a wonderful son who has always brought sunshine into our lives. We are very proud of all your accomplishments.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Lora

**CURTIS***Adams*

To my wonderful, adventurous, free-spirited son!

May your dreams be as successful as your enjoyment of life is! Love you!

Mom, Grandma and Grandpa

**RYAN & TANIA***Adams**Adams*

Then and Now
Good Luck

Love,
The Meltons
and
The Fliters

TRACY*Adams*

Tracy,

As the morning sun begins to break
and the coffee stars us awake

I think about the years gone by
and now I begin to cry

For now the day has come
to let our princess venture on
Although we did not know
it really started four years ago

With each new blossom of spring that grew
came one more year of something new
New hair, new clothes, new shoes to match
new thoughts of the future and the past

but, with this all
came one beautiful girl in the fall
and now it's here

the final year
through all your triumphs you have gathered
and through all your tears you have wept

The final years to all will bring
many wonderful memories of those springs

Love,
Mom & Dad

**STEVEN***Adams*

Steven,

We are proud of you! You have grown to be an intelligent, motivated, responsible, and independent young man with many talents and interests. We wish you continued success and happiness in life.

Love Always,
Mom and Dad

KRISTIN

Remember how you cried and fought because you didn't want to go to kindergarten? You were so afraid! Now here you are, graduating from high school, getting ready for college. You have made us so proud of the confident, beautiful, young woman you've become. May all your dreams and wishes come true. We know you can make them happen.

Love,
Mom & Dad



BRIAN

Brian,

Congratulations! We're very proud of you and love you very much. Good luck and much happiness in whatever direction you choose. You deserve only the best. Know that we will always be there for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Brad



MELISSA

Congratulations! How quickly the years have flown by. Imagine it, and believe it and it can happen for you. You will always have our love and support. A piece of our hearts will be with you always. Good luck in everything you do.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Cassie, and Mike



LYDIA

You are our youngest and one that has accomplished so much. Follow your dreams in journalism and music. We are very proud of you.

Love,
Mom & Dad



CARIANNE

CariAnne,

You've always been last in the alphabet so we always had to wait extra long for you. But to us you were always first in line. We are very proud of you and love you very much. **Congratulations & Good Luck!**

Love,
Greg, Mom, Lindsay, & Pud



BLAIR

Blair,

Preschool graduation and now high school graduation. We are so proud of you. You are a wonderful daughter and sister. Good luck at I.U. May your dreams and wishes come true.

Love Always,
Mom, Dad, Hillary, & Mallory



BRANDON

Brandon,

Congratulations! We are very proud of you and all of your many accomplishments. Thanks for being such a wonderful son, brother and friend. May your life be filled with good health, happiness and much success in the future. We love you (Bubba) and we will always be here for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ron Jr.



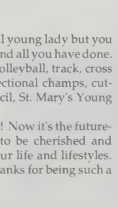
JENNIFER

In a blink of an eye you've grown into a beautiful young lady but you will always be our baby. We are so proud of you and all you have done.

St. Andrew's, St. Mary's, Griffith High School volleyball, track, cross country, basketball, letter winner, co-captain, sectional champs, cutting the net!!! Honor student, SADD, class council, St. Mary's Young Ladies Sodality.

Good friends, wonderful memories, great career! Now it's the future—new experiences, new friends, new memories to be cherished and remembered. Education, Purdue, changes in your life and lifestyles. We will always be there for love and support. Thanks for being such a TREASURE.

Love, Mom and Dad



JORIE

Thank you very much for all of our cherished memories. We will remember your school days with cheers and tears. Thank you also for the opportunity to meet all of the terrific kids who were your friends. You will always be our favorite daughter, our hero.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Ian



NICHOLAS

Nick,

Congratulations to a wonderful brother on your graduation. I've always been proud of you and who you are. You can do anything. Set your goals high! Never give up. I wish you only the best in life and will always be there for you.

I love you dearly,
Kel



KARRIE

Kare,

Having you for our daughter has filled our hearts with great pride and joy! You have always tried your hardest in everything you've done, so keep reaching for those stars.

THANK YOU for all you have been, for all you are, and all you are yet to become!

We'll always love you,
Popsy & Mom



STEFANIE

CONGRATULATIONS! May this be the first of many memorable moments in a long and happy life. You have grown into a wonderful young woman and have always made me proud.

Love,
Mom

SHANE

Shane,

Words can't express all we feel in our hearts for you and how proud you have made us. You are the best son and brother we could ever hope for. You have been a dream come true for us. Now the time has come for you to pursue your dreams. With your determination, sense of humor, compassion and love for life, we know you will succeed in that special dream you hold so dear.

Thank you for all the joy and happiness you have given us and remember we will always be here for you!! We love you so much!!

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Scott



MEGAN

Congratulations and
good luck
to our little girl!

Love always,
Mom & Dad



SUSAN

Congratulations Susan!!

We are all so proud of you. You have accomplished many wonderful things so far, we can't wait to see what's next! We love you!!

Dad, Mom,
Marcie, Ramon & Timmy



BRIAN

Dear Brian,

We are all so proud of you! You took on a big responsibility of holding a job and keeping your grades maintained, but you did it! Your determination is a great attribute, and we know that you will have a very bright future. We all love you and wish you all the best!

Dad, Lucy, Michael, Rob, Kevin, Brandon, & Breanne

TINA

We are very proud of you and the young woman you've become. May the choices you make in the future bring you true happiness.

We love you very much.

Dad, Mom & Tammy



LAURA

Laura,

Congratulations! Thank you for so many great memories! We have enjoyed watching you grow into a beautiful young lady. You have worked hard and accomplished so much! We are very proud and couldn't ask for a better daughter and sister. May all your dreams come true because you deserve nothing but the best!

Love you always,
Mom, Dad, & Jack



CHRISTINA

Chrissy,

Congratulations! Throughout the years, you have impressed us with your grace and integrity. We are so proud of your accomplishments and the goals you are setting. We wish you all the best life has to offer and hope that all your dreams come true.

All our love,

Mom, Susie, and Billy



MICHELLE

The joy you've given us is more than you can imagine. Always take pride in who you are and live each day to the fullest. And as you make your way through life, know in your heart how much we love you and believe in you.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Betsy, Bob, and Cubbie



STACEY

Congratulations,

A new chapter of your life is about to begin. Your hopes, dreams, and future are ahead of you. I know you will accomplish whatever you set your mind to. We are so proud of you and are so very pleased and honored to say you are our daughter. Good Luck! We love you.

Mom & Adam

MANDA

You were the twinkle in our eyes long before we knew you. We pray you will always twinkle through the years to come.

Love,

Mom & Dad

FRAN

Dear Fran,

You have given us more than 18 years worth of the most "precious moments" we could ever have dreamed possible.

We wish you all the best as your next big adventure begins for you as you head off to college. We know your future will be bright, and we look forward to watching it unfold before you.

Love,

Mom & Dad



NIKKI

Nikki,

Congratulations and all our love to a very special daughter. We're very proud of you and all that you've accomplished. We wish you the best that life has to offer.

Love,

Dad & Mom



JEREMY

Jeremy,

Congratulations! We are proud of your many accomplishments and of the fine young man you've become. No matter what career you choose, we know you'll succeed. We will always be there to support you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Matt



BRIDGETTE

Congratulations!! Thanks for being the daughter I always dreamed of and my best friend. What's next? Well remember, "God has a plan." Put him first and the rest will fall into place. We support you 100%! You are only beginning.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Eric



FRANK

I was there when you were born. When you celebrated your first tooth, first step, and first hair cut, I was there. I watched you leave for kindergarten. I was there to pick you up on certain days. What an occasion your first dance turned out to be. I was there to watch you leave. When you needed a job, I was there. You've been a great success at Fannie May Candies. I'm very proud of you. I've watched over the years as you grew into a man. I'm so glad I was there to see the wonderful person you have turned out to be. I want to be there for all important events yet to come. Remember I will always be there for you.

Love,
Nana

JESSICA

To my granddaughter, Jessica,

You are a very special granddaughter. Your grandfather and I have watched you grow up into a very beautiful young lady with a very positive attitude who knows how to accomplish her goals, education, career, and be a success in everything you do. Your grandfather and I will always treasure the special times in your life. We are very proud of you. Best of luck, go for it.

Love you,
Your grandparents,
George Ann & Barney Austin

FRANK

Frank,

You are the best son a mom could hope for. I am so very proud of you and all you've accomplished. I am especially proud of the man you have become. I know that your determination, sense of humor, and kindness will bring you success. Thank you for your support, and as you face the future, know that I will always be there for you.

Love,
Mom

MICHELLE

Congratulations on your graduation and your many accomplishments at G.H.S. We are very proud of you. Thank you for all the memories. We wish you all the happiness that life can give. Reach for the stars!

We love you very much!
Dad, Mom, Jenny, Samantha, and
Santana III



TANIA

Tania,

Congratulations. We are so very proud of you and your many accomplishments. There is no doubt in our minds that you will succeed in whatever you choose to do. Be happy.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Russell, & Matthew



FAY

Congratulations! We are very proud of you. The future is yours with endless potential! Best of luck and God bless you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Terry



CRAIG

Congratulations and best of luck in all that you do. We can't tell you how much we've enjoyed watching you and your friends in your high school activities. Remember we'll always be there for you.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Kyle, Jeff, & David



DANIEL

Danny,

Wow!! What an outstanding scholar/athlete you are. Your many accomplishments are so numerous and well deserved. Your family knows how hard you've worked to reach your goals. You are an incredibly smart and special person with a great future ahead of you. Follow your dreams and remember your family will be right behind you to help guide you. We love you so very much and wish you only the best in pursuing your career. Thank you for being such a great son!!

Love you always,
Dad, Mom, & David



CHARLENE

Charlene,

Thank you for being the daughter and sister that you are- always going that extra mile and putting 110% into everything that you do. We know that you will succeed in your career, with the ambition, determination, and self-discipline that you have. We are very proud of you! Good luck and may God bless you!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Pam, & Laura

Patty,

What a wonderful, loving, beautiful young woman you've become. Your friendliness, caring, and great sense of humor (I love that laugh!) will help you make many new friends in college. What an exciting time for you! We're so proud of all you've accomplished and look forward to seeing what you'll do with your future. We love you with all our hearts and will always be there for you.

Dad & Mom



JILL

Jill,

Thank you for all the wonderful memories you've given us. You're so full of life and love. You've grown into a beautiful young woman. We are so proud of you. You'll always be our baby daughter and sister and we love you very much. You have a bright future ahead, pursue your dreams and your goals, we have faith in you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Jennifer



PATTY

What a wonderful, loving, beautiful young woman you've become. Your friendliness, caring, and great sense of humor (I love that laugh!) will help you make many new friends in college. What an exciting time for you! We're so proud of all you've accomplished and look forward to seeing what you'll do with your future. We love you with all our hearts and will always be there for you.

Dad & Mom



JULIA

Dear Julia,

From the time you were just a "wee lass" you had an inner knowing that encouraged you to put forth the effort to succeed and make incredible memories while maintaining your integrity. You've learned about balancing work and play and keeping a sacred song in your heart to lift your spirit. You've given and learned to receive the support of friends and loved ones.

You're ready babe. Go for it!

Love,
Mom, Frank, & Nick



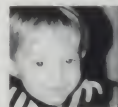
DAVID

Dave,

Congratulations on doing so well in all your 13 years of school. We're very proud of you! Whatever you decide to do in life a mom will always worry, but... thank goodness you have a great personality, a kind heart, and a smart head on your shoulders. I know you will use them wisely. We will always follow you in your heart.

Love you,

Mom, Emiel, Vanessa, Teddy, & Emily



JESSICA

To our daughter Jessica who is beautiful, smart, and great at anything you do. We have watched you grow up and we have watched you go through some very hard times. Look at yourself and be proud of what you have accomplished!! You have closed one chapter in your life. Now set your goals again and go for it. We have more faith in you than you know.

We wish you the best of luck and all the happiness that a pair of angels could wish for. You have given us 18 years of wonderful, loving memories. We love you and are grateful and proud of you.

Your angels,

Mom, Dad, and your brother Allen

KAREN

Dear Karen,

Congratulations! We're so proud of you and all your accomplishments. We look forward to sharing in your future goals and achievements. You're a winner.

Love,
Dad, Mom, and Bobby



JULIA



".... and I say to myself, what a wonderful world...."
May you always find moments in your life when you feel like singing to the flowers. I love you.

Dad & Nick

TOMMY

You have jumped many hurdles and scored many points. You have brought many smiles to many people. Keep reaching for SAINTS, for God will always be with you. You will always be our Cement Mixer with pads.

Love a whole bunch,
Mom, Dad, Tennille



JULIA

And she is curious, always looking for the meaning in things. And her eyes and heart are open to possibilities. And she smiles to a wonderful depth.

And I am glad she is in my life.

Love you,
Tina



ADAM

Adam,

Celebrate! We won state in 1997! We could not be prouder of who you are and what you have accomplished. We love you very much.

Mom & Dad

P.S. Kristy says Dale is the man.



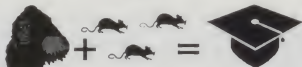
ANGELA

Congratulations and all our love to a very special daughter and sister! Remember, being yourself is all it takes for success and good friends! Thank you, Angela for making it so easy to be so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Mike, & Adam



JEFF



(Kong + Rats = Congrats!)

Jeff,

What a phenomenal journey to reach this year. Keep on at it until you're a doctor, lawyer, or even a rat. We'll be there for you and are so proud of you! Keep making Mom laugh!

Love, Mom, Dad, Mike, & Adam

SALVADOR

My Dear son Salvador #17,

First & foremost let's give God thanks for keeping you embraced in his arms. Secondly, congratulations on your academic and athletic accomplishments. We're so proud of you, we love you so much. These years have gone by so fast. From the first day that I walked you into Pre-school to now that you're graduating. You need to begin the next phase of your life. Whatever you decide to do with your future we'll be there for you. The world is yours to conquer, set your goals high and shoot for the stars, nothing less! Follow your dreams & they will become reality. No parents could be prouder. The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become by it. We love you!

Dad, Mom, Nena, & Sofia





*Good Luck and Thanks
to the Class of '98*

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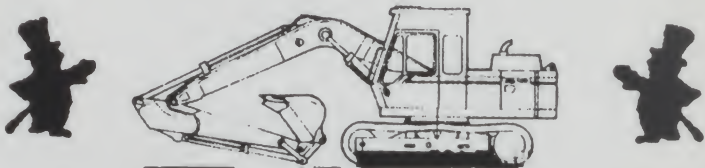
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Mandi Messinio

Angela Stout

Megan Harveth

Laura Johnson

Karen Jensen



Angie Kozup

Jill Havlin

Tennille Grasha

Amanda Kasper

Jenni Vazonis

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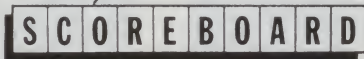
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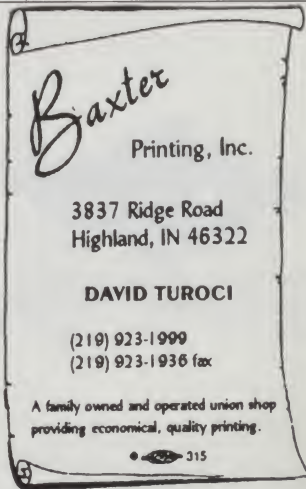
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photo by Dennis Swender



photo by Chris Tapa



photo by Dennis Swender



photo by Dennis Swender

HAPPY ENDINGS (top to bottom) Seniors Rene Reyna and Noel Nagy learn how to check oil in a car in adult prep class. Senior Blair Bernath is presented with an award by Margie Keithley, family and consumer sciences at the Annual Fashion Show in the cafeteria. Junior Sarah Jansen checks her make-up while waiting for her hair to set for prom. Judith Surovek, English, presents her dog Ibib during one of his visits to school.



Blatant adj. Being without an equal, unparalleled. Unequal to any band since 1987, the Wind Ensemble placed first in all categories in Division II at the ISSMA competition in Rennsalaer. It was the first time the band had placed well in this category in eleven years.

Coltural adj. The act of developing the social, moral, and intellectual faculties through education. Retiring or transferring teachers like Dawn Rzonca, and Sharon Smith, English, Scott Murray, science, and Brian Tomson, social studies, would no longer influence students through education.

Distinct adj. Distinct in kind; unlike. Students showed their diverse talents when three seniors, Dan Falda, Steve McGuire, and Ryan Melton, placed first out of 27 teams statewide at St. Joseph's College Computer Programming Competition in April.

AND OF THE FREE Senior Jeremy Bratton takes down the American flag at the high school flag pole at the end of the day. Bratton also helped clean up trash around the school and mowed the grass.

As the last day of school approached, students waited in anticipation for the free days of summer to arrive. Old habits such as sleeping in class came into play. As sophomore Emily Coddington demonstrates, after all the work is done, sleeping wasn't an uncommon sight in classes in order to pass the extra time away. Old habits die hard.

OLD habits



photo by Tony Papp



photo by Fran Nelson

Synid adj. Having the qualities necessary for a task or situation. Mother Nature treated everyone equally

a s
Griffith
a n d

other nearby towns were overcome by a snowstorm in March and school was cancelled for three days.

Dignid adj. Of great dignity; honored. Samuel Cox, principal, was honored to present the Class of 1998

with an enlarged senior class picture at graduation as a token of his retirement after 23 years as principal.

One adj. Characterized by unity; undivided. Students were undivided in their quest to help out fellow student,

junior William Gomez, by going to every class and asking for money to help with his leukemia treatments.

ATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER Senior Melissa White and Trisha Verbich check out sophomore Cassandra White's results of the Computer Fun print out sheet. Students filled out a questionnaire and submitted them to Student Council to find out who their best matches of the opposite sex were.

DEFINITE ENDS

Yearbook n. A documentary, memorial, or historical book published every year, containing information about the previous year. The 1997-98 Reflector was printed by Herff Jones 6015 Travis Lane, Shawnee Mission, KS 66202-2343. 588 books were purchased between August and February ranging between the prices of \$35-\$50. The cover of the book is lithograph with matte lamination and red foil stamp. The front endsheet and title page are spot-colored with Herff Jones color HJ 0200 Scarlet and all pages are printed on Bordeaux Special 80# paper stock.

The cover, endsheets, title page, opening, closing and divider pages were designed by Lydia Whitehead. The Student Life section was designed by Melissa White, the Academics section by Tom Morosin and Nicole Voges, the Clubs section by Allison Gierman, the Sports section by Vanessa Cutka and Josh Martin, the Album section by Meagan Clarke and the Ads section by Rebecca Amos, Angie Stout, Jill Havlin, and Jenny Redar. All copy on the opening and closing was written by Lydia Whitehead and the index was assembled by Nicole Voges.

All definitions on the opening, closing, divider pages, and colophon were obtained from *The American Heritage Dictionary*, Second College Edition, published by the Houghton Mifflin Company.

The *Reflector* staff is a member of the Indiana High School Press Association and the Quill and Scroll Society. As in past years, the staff won many local and national awards for their work. The *Reflector* was a runner-up for the Hoosier Star award and received recognition at IHSPA State and JEA National Conventions.

Staff n. The personnel who carry out a specific enterprise. The specific enterprise of the yearbook staff was simple: finish the yearbook by the end of the school year. No problem. The creation of our book all started in Muncie, IN at Ball State Summer Journalism Workshops when, at 12:30, I woke my co-editor and roomie, Vanessa Cutka with my idea for this year's theme: Defining Ourselves. This theme was then developed and perfected by myself and the 17 member staff over the course of the year.

The book was created in the J-room using seven Power Macintosh 5300/100 LC and four Macintosh LC II computers, and two Laserwriter 16/1600 PS printers. The software we used was Aldus PageMaker 5.0, Ofoto 1.1, and ClarisWorks 4.0. Fonts included in the Student Life section: Zapf Chancery, New Berolina MT, and Gill Sans Condensed Bold; in the Academics section: Bernhard MT, and Script; in the Clubs section: Futura Bd Cn BT; in the Sports section: Amaze, Techno, Swing and Bookman; and in the Album section: Delphian. All stories and captions are Lucida Bright.

All candid photos were shot by staff photographers on Kodak T-Max 400 and 3200 speed black and white film. All student produced photos were printed by the student photographers in the J-room darkroom on Kodak Polycontrast III RC black and white paper. Team and group pictures and faculty and senior pictures were produced by Larry Titak, and all underclassman pictures were produced by Interstate Studios, Inc.

The staff would like to thank their parents for their support and patience, our adviser Carolyn Brown for her advice, our cleaning lady Jackie for her great cleaning skills, our Herff Jones representatives Lisa Hepburn-Keene and Susan Taylor for their help, and the faculty and administration for their support.

-Lydia Whitehead

REFLECTOR 97-98

Vanessa Cutka-Co-editor-in-chief Sports Editor

Fay Netos-Photography Editor

Lydia Whitehead-Co-editor-in-chief

Rebecca Amos-Business Manager

Meagan Clarke-Album Editor

Stick Cunningham-Album Reporter

Allison Gierman-Clubs Editor

Jill Havlin-Ads Representative

Josh Martin-Assistant Sports Editor

Tom Morosin-Co-Academics Editor

Tony Papa-Photography Manager

Jennifer Redar-Ads Representative

Kelli Schoon-Photographer

Angela Stout-Ads Representative

Dennis Swender-Photographer

Nicole Voges-Co-Academics Editor/Design Editor

Melissa White-Student Life Editor

Nissa Carolyn Brown-Adviser



Photo by Carolyn Brown

COLOPHON

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased by 1.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased by 1.2 million (Office for National Statistics 1999). The number of people aged 85 and over has increased by 0.5 million in the same period. The number of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase by 2.5 million by 2026, and the number of people aged 75 and over is projected to increase by 2.0 million by 2026 (Office for National Statistics 1999).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the health and social care needs of the ageing population. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for ageing, which sets out the government's commitment to improve the health and social care of older people. The strategy is based on three main principles: (1) to ensure that older people have access to the services they need; (2) to ensure that older people are able to live independently; and (3) to ensure that older people are able to participate in society.

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